Hafa Adai!

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ANOTHER RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

Female clients of the Aging Center wave to the crowd before the start of their performance at the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival on Saturday. Thousands of spectators flocked to the Civic Center Beach Park over the weekend for the arts festival, which continues to be the premier showcase for the artistic heritage of the Northern Marianas and other Pacific islands.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

See story and photos on Pages 2 and 19

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POLL RESULTS

Do you support a U.S. military plan to use Pagan as a training area?

Yes	117
No	112
Unsure	9
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Sunday, April 21, 2013

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LOCAL

Thousands troop to the AMP for the 2013 Environmental Expo.

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Bank executive wins Rotary's inaugural Pacific Hold'em Tournament.

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LIFE & STYLE

Liam Hemsworth promises the "Hunger Games" sequel will not disappoint.

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FOR CNMI'S LONG-TERM FOREIGN WORKERS

May be last shot at better status

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **USCIS: 10,677 now have CW-1 permits; 1,825 renewed CW permits**

Danilo Villanueva, 58, came to Saipan in 1988 to work at the former Hotel Nikko as stewarding manager. Some 25 years later and now working as a salesman, Villanueva still feels uncertain year after year whether his annual employment contract would be renewed. In the CNMI, over 12,000 foreign workers feel the same way and many of them have been here for at least five or 10 years.

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Babauta fired; effective in 7 days

» **Federal partners to provide list of replacement**
» **Muña named to interim post**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees on Friday fired CEO Juan N. Babauta from his post, two months ahead of the expiration of his contract.

The decision was reached by five trustees—board chair Joaquin Torres, Pedro Dela Cruz, Anthony Aguon, Roy Rios, and Anthony Raho—after almost an hour of executive session.

Babauta was at a relative's funeral and did not attend the meeting. Another trustee, Dr.

See FIRED on Page 4

Babauta

Mondala out of Aging Center

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mondala

Rose Mondala is no longer the Office on Aging director in the wake of clamor by Aging Center clients to oust her.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos confirmed this development Saturday, adding that acting secretary Laura T. Ogumoro of the Department of Community and Cultural Af-

See MONDALA on Page 4

CNMI team wins RWDC nat'l championship

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A six-member team from the CNMI's public high schools brought new pride and honor to the Commonwealth after being named the overall champions in the 2013 Real World Design Challenge.

Public School System STEM Fair coordinator Jeaniffer Cubangbang, who is still in Washington, D.C. with the group, relayed the good news yes-

See RWDC on Page 4

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI's Aeronautical Dolphins, along with their coach teacher John Raulerson, left, pose for a group photo after receiving the championship trophy at the prestigious Real World Design Challenge competition in Washington, D.C. this weekend.

La Fiesta revitalization talks break down. PAGE 3
Inos: Heads may roll at CHC, NMC, other boards. PAGE 5

32nd Flame Tree Arts Festival 'a resounding success'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Thousands of spectators flocked to the Civic Center Beach Park over the weekend for the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival, which continues to be the premier showcase for the artistic heritage of the Northern Marianas and other Pacific islands.

During the soft opening night alone on Friday, festival-goers arrived in droves to check out the 60 booths that featured various works of art by local and visiting artists and to sample the menu of 13 food vendors.

The annual festival officially opened Saturday with a ceremony attended by officials led by Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

In his remarks, Inos said the signature event of the Arts Council has become a favorite of families and visitors alike because of the artistry and craftsmanship of local and international talents as well as the food of participating delegations.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Female dancers perform on stage in honor of the late Frances Camacho Keremius.

"It is so moving to see such diverse island nations represented here because we all share common cultural and traditional ties," he said.

Inos hopes that the festival theme, "Be a Part: Promote, Preserve, and Perpetuate your Culture," will strengthen efforts to ensure that the unique island cultures are passed on to future generations.

"By promoting, preserving, and perpetuating our cultures, we stand united today, for the benefit of tomorrow, in honor of our past," he added.

Highlighting Saturday's ceremony was the festival dedication to local artists who passed away last year. This year's dedication was bestowed on Connie J. Adams, Francisco M. Dela Cruz, Frances Camacho Keremius, and Daniel Keli'I Johnson. Families of the deceased artists received the plaques of dedication from Inos and Arts Council board members.

Delegations from Kiribati, Chuuk, Guam, Tinian, and Rota were also recognized with plaques of participation, while sponsors that made the three-day festival possible were presented with tokens of appreciation.

The event featured many firsts this year, including booths of up-and-coming artists, Zumba performance, and newly formed performing acts such as Ukulele Jams and the Marianas High School band.

The festival wrapped up last night with a raffle draw that gave away prizes, including cellular phones and the grand prize of roundtrip tickets to any Delta Air Lines destination in the U.S.

Organizers were thrilled with the resounding success of the event. Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog and overall festival committee chair Parker Y. Yobei said the months of hard work paid off, thanks to the overwhelming response from the community. Both expressed hope that the public will continue to embrace efforts to ensure that traditional and other forms of art on the islands will live on.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Russian artist Tatiana Ilmova is joined by her mother and her daughter at her booth.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
The Ukulele Jammers, comprised of students who took the classes offered by the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

China International Travel Mart

In partnership with **Century Tours**, the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** participated in the **2012 China International Travel Mart (CITM)** in **Shanghai** on Nov. 15-18, 2012.

CITM is the largest professional travel mart in Asia and has drawn the attention of people in the tourism industry worldwide. Participants include international and domestic tourist organizations, travel agencies, hotels, airlines and related travel companies. In November, over 100 exhibitors participated and approximately 100,000 visitors attended.

The MVA's booth was in the **U.S. Pavilion** along with **Florida** and **California** and major cities such as **New York** and **Las Vegas**. The MVA team did several interviews with local media, mainly promoting newly-launched charter flights from Beijing to Saipan. The first charter was launched during CITM and was a highlight of the interviews. More than 3,000 patrons visited the MVA booth, and face-to face meetings were held with 20 key agents.

In FY 2012 the Northern Marianas received nearly 80,000 visitors from China, 70 percent more than the previous year.

Local

La Fiesta revitalization talks with UMDA break down

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government's negotiations with United Micronesia Development Association Inc., or UMDA, for the latter to revitalize the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque have "come to a standstill" and the Inos administration may have to set aside another $200,000 in the fiscal year 2014 budget to pay for the annual land lease.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said there are other investors interested in revitalizing the property for tourism-related purposes but there is no telling whether a deal can be reached in the next fiscal year.

A part of the government's condition is for any would-be investor to also shoulder the annual $200,000 land lease.

House Judiciary and Government Operations Committee chair Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), meanwhile, said last night that if it were up to him as representative of Precinct 4, which covers La Fiesta, he would like a "rezoning" wherein all poker establishments on Saipan will be relocated to the former mall.

"Many poker businesses are right across schools and in the middle of residential villages. Part of the La Fiesta Mall could accommodate all the poker machines, and then the other part could be for other tourism activities. I think that would be better than having La Fiesta sitting idle and costing the government in annual land lease," Leon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

In fiscal year 2013, the government budget did not set aside $200,000 for payment of the La Fiesta land lease, in anticipation of UMDA's proposal to redevelop the former mall. But talks did not succeed.

"Yes, we had to reprogram money to pay for it; otherwise we'd be in default. But I will have to check. I think it's getting more and more likely that it will be farmed out to a developer. The conditions would be the developer has to absorb the annual [lease] payment," Inos said.

He confirmed that negotiations with UMDA "basically came to a standstill."

"From my perspective, it's not a viable deal anymore," he said.

The government could either issue another request for proposal as it did the last time, wherein UMDA had the best offer in response to an RFP.

The two others were Island Ventures LLC and Pacific Entertainment Technology.

House minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan), also from Precinct 4, said last night that it would be a "great idea to revitalize La Fiesta" to help boost tourism in the area.

"We have many beautiful beaches that tourists frequent in Precinct 4. It would be another great attraction if it is revitalized," he added.

Governor weighs bills' impact on 2014 budget

Gov. Eloy S. Inos held off on submitting his proposed $120-million budget to the Legislature on Friday to take into consideration the impacts of about a dozen House revenue-generating bills formally introduced on Thursday.

The governor has until May 1 to submit a new budget.

Among the revenue-generating bills introduced last week were House Bill 18-45 legalizing casino gaming on Saipan; HB 18-44 requiring periodic checks of sales receipts to help plug tax leaks; HB 18-42 setting a fine for possession of small amount of marijuana rather than placing the offenders in jail; and HB 18-51 allowing electronic gaming machines in hotels.

"It's good that the governor is taking the House revenue generating bills into consideration before he submits his budget," Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) said.

Inos said most of the bills, if signed into law, will have a fiscal year 2014 effective date, and this makes it vital to take them into consideration.

But there is no telling whether the estimated $120-million budget package can still be increased. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

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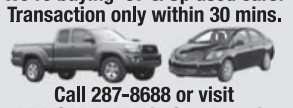
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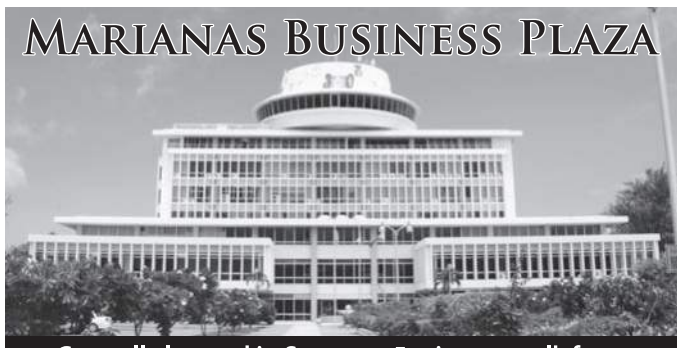
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RWDC

From Page 1

terday via email.

As part of their victory, each team member—Jill Ann Arada, Clariza Magat, Stephanie Xiao, Cecilia Huixin Xu, John Paul Aglubat, and Jessica Bigueras—will be awarded a $50,000 scholarship to any campus of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Besides the championship trophy and the individual scholarships, the CNMI team was also a recipient of the Cessna Award, FAA Award, and IAAA award. Each member also got iPod Nanos, courtesy of the competition's sponsor.

This is the CNMI team's second time to compete at the national level after being the Pacific overall winners for two years in a row.

The group came better prepared this year, Cubangbang said, competing against over 30 other state challenge winners. The group traveled last week to the nation's capital with coach-teacher John Raulerson.

In her email to *Saipan Tribune*, Cubangbang said that about 200 students congregated at the National 4H Youth Center in D.C., bringing their best designs, data, and business plans for unmanned air vehicles.

The RWDC is an annual high school competition for all states and territories that aims to transform the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education by providing professional science and engineering and learning resources to students and teachers.

Last year, the first-timer CNMI team was presented with the meritorious award after demonstrating their hard work in improvising and overcoming a difficult situation while still making a respectable showing.

The championship award this was unexpected.

"The team was very confident that they would get something…but surprised they would win overall because all the presentations we watched were very good. I believe we won because we were very detailed in our design and in the systematic processes used," Cubangbang said, adding that the team demonstrated innovation and expertise.

"I believe they showed expertise in the software and tools. They also displayed the most collaboration, with students showing up to work on projects as early as 5am and as late as 9pm," added Cubangbang.

Other national winners this year included runners-up Pennsylvania and New Hampshire.

According to Cubangbang, the director and founder of the RWDC, Ralph K. Coppola, described the CNMI team as one of the "best and brightest of the nation." She said judges also praised the team for their comprehensive, detailed, and technical designs.

"We are very proud of such accomplishment. They have put the CNMI on the map. For many that attended and judged today, they had never heard of us or knew where we were located. PSS continues to participate in future RWDC competitions and expose students to fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics that they had never considered before," added Cubangbang.

The Aeronautical Dolphins designed a small unmanned aircraft system (or unmanned aircraft vehicle) for the effective conduct of search and rescue missions. According to members, their project indicated solutions that will assist in paving the way for future small UAVs and contribute in the aviation's future advancements.

STATUS

From Page 1

As of April 16, some 86 percent or 10,677 of 12,434 foreign workers have already obtained their transitional CW-1 permit, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services deputy press secretary Marie Thérèse Sebrechts said Saturday.

Of this number, 1,825 now have extended or renewed CW-1 permits.

If a sweeping U.S. Senate bill filed last week is signed into law, that could give many of these workers a chance to apply for a CNMI-only permanent resident status. That is, if they've been legally working in the CNMI since at least 2003 and currently have a CW-1 permit.

"But what if I lose my CW status even before this bill becomes law? I lose everything. I am not so hopeful anymore but if it becomes law, I would be thankful," Villanueva told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview Saturday at the Flame Tree Arts Festival grounds where he was helping sell some arts and crafts.

The 844-page immigration reform bill that the U.S. Senate's "Gang of Eight" crafted also allows those with CNMI-only permanent resident status a chance to apply for U.S. permanent residency or "green card" five years after the measure's enactment into law. This is a pathway to U.S. citizenship.

'Not going to be easy'

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said Saturday that Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) efforts have paid off in ensuring the CNMI is included in any national immigration reform bill but like everyone else, he is cautiously optimistic.

For one, the U.S. Senate has yet to pass the bill.

This early, Inos said, some U.S. House of Representatives members want the Senate bill defeated.

Even if the U.S. Senate passes the bill, the House could vote to reject it or delete or change the CNMI provision. A conference committee could come up with a compromise bill with a CNMI provision that is far from what it is now.

"It still has a long way to go," the governor told *Saipan Tribune.*

He, however, reiterated his support to the idea of improved status for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

Sablan himself concedes that getting the Senate Gang of Eight bill to President Barack Obama and signed into law "is not going to be easy."

"Many people in Congress and around the country will be opposed. There is going to be a lot of debate in the weeks ahead. I will certainly be paying attention to what my constituents say. But I do believe that the time has come to take action and fix immigration—for our country and for the Northern Mariana Islands. And I am very glad that after years of hard work we are in the bill that will be the basis for whatever passes Congress," he said.

See related story on Page 11

Many foreign workers are happy and thankful for Sablan's efforts in including their long-term immigration status in the bill.

But others like Villanueva are not keeping their hopes high this time. Villanueva said that after 25 years of working in the CNMI, he has long been waiting for an improved immigration status—one that is granted to other legal foreign workers in other U.S. soil.

"I am not that excited any more. We've been through this before. Maybe this time around, it could be different but nothing's for sure," he added.

Sablan said this could also be the CNMI's last shot at inclusion in a national immigration reform bill, or it could take several years again for such a reform to be proposed.

National scene

The U.S. Senate bill gives some 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. mainland a pathway to U.S. citizenship, making it the most ambitious immigration measure in about three decades.

They could obtain "registered provisional immigrant status" six months after enactment of the bill as long as the Department of Homeland Security has developed border security and fencing plans, and they arrived in the U.S. prior to Dec. 31, 2011, and maintained continuous physical presence since then, among other things.

Illegal aliens or out-of-status aliens in the CNMI are not covered in the bill because this is not an amnesty provision for the Commonwealth.

In the previous Congress, Sablan introduced a standalone bill to grant CNMI-only permanent resident status to four groups of foreigners in the CNMI.

This didn't pass but Sablan worked to have the same four groups—plus two more consisting of foreign workers who have been in the CNMI since 2003 and are now under CW-1 status, and their spouses and children—included in the U.S. Senate bill.

While the U.S. House of Representatives has yet to release an immigration bill, Sablan said he also worked with his colleagues to ensure a CNMI provision is included in it.

Sablan is currently on island. He left Washington, D.C. Wednesday to visit his ailing father, Jesus Diaz Sablan, at the Commonwealth Health Center. His father passed away, however, before the delegate could reach Saipan. Jesus Diaz Sablan was 83.

Ignacio Demapan, director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs, said he is not opposed to the CNMI provision of the U.S. Senate bill, adding that long-term legal workers deserve improved status.

He, however, is still hopeful that the CNMI could regain control of its own immigration and that U.S. workers will continue to be prioritized in many of the positions required in the private sector.

MONDALA

From Page 1

fairs is tasked to find a replacement for Mondala, who has been with the Office on Aging for about seven years.

Office on Aging, which is in charge of the federally funded programs for the elderly in the Commonwealth, is a division of DCCA.

Inos said in an interview that the *man'amko*'s petition was "part and partial" of the reasons to remove Mondala.

"It's all about trying to be more efficient. But I'd be lying if I said that it had nothing to do with that," he told *Saipan Tribune* after the opening ceremony for the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival.

Clients at the Aging Center led by Saipan Seniors Advisory Council president Maria T. Salinas, Mahensia Mereb, Ana Nakatsukasa, and Terry Sitae wrote a letter calling for Mondala's ouster, citing unprofessional and impolite behavior toward the seniors. Dozens of other clients signed the letter.

When asked for comment, Salinas said many of the clients were working on getting Mondala out. With the latter gone, the *man'amko* will rejoice.

"Now we can be free. Everybody has heard our plight and so we're glad that it did happen sooner than later. We're able to voice our desires, and our voices will be heard," said Salinas after the seniors' performance at the weekend festival.

According to Salinas, a lot of the elderly stopped going to the center because of Mondala. She disclosed that they almost didn't perform at the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival because Mondala wouldn't allow them to use the van to transport about a dozen seniors to the festival grounds.

"She's been the one holding back a lot of potential clients at the center. Hopefully with her gone, they will be back and whoever is eligible will also come to the center and join us for a lot of fun and entertainment," she added.

Former council president Teresita Sorroza, who supported the petition, said there will now be a lot of positive changes at the center.

"I am really happy and excited for all of us at the center," she said.

Salinas said that they would like to be included in the process of choosing the new Aging director.

"We don't want to be treated like children. After all, we have children with children. We really demand to be treated as very mature adults," she said.

Sources at the center said many of the *man'amko* want Aging coordinator Walter Manglona to replace Mondala. To this end, the governor said the elderly can express their sentiments since "this is a free country."

Inos said he will talk to the *man'amko* to let them know that the next Aging director should not only be likeable but also well-informed about how the programs at the office work, including grant requirements and existing laws.

"I'm saying that we need to go through a vetting process," he clarified.

Inos said that whoever is Ogumoro's choice for the position will have to be evaluated to "make sure that the issues which led to Mondala's removal does not re-occur."

Meanwhile, the governor said that Mondala is "in transition" since she knows a lot about the grants received by the Office on Aging. "She just can't walk away."

Inos assured the *man'amko* that the government will continue to provide the elderly the services as required by federal laws and programs.

"We have to abide by the rules. I know that there are a lot of things that we want to do outside the rules but those are, in many cases, prohibited. So in order to have continued eligibility, we need to follow those rules. Those rules may be contrary to the wishes of the *man'amko* but in most cases, we have to sit down and explain it to them," he added.

FIRED

From Page 1

Sherleen Osman, is on leave.

Babauta's termination is effective seven days after the acceptance of Gov. Eloy S. Inos. The governor, who earlier said that he will accept the board's decision on Babauta's contract, was at the hospital Friday noon to turn over a check to the corporation. After the turnover rites, he was seen having a brief chat with Torres.

Hospital COO Esther Muña was named interim CEO. She will take on her new role as soon as Inos accepts the board's decision.

Torres disclosed that a new contract will be drafted for Muña and he affirmed that she will get a slight adjustment in her salary.

Muña is currently receiving $85,000 per annum as COO and chief financial officer of the corporation. Babauta was paid $96,000 per annum.

According to Torres, Muña will be concentrating on her new role as interim CEO while the post of COO will be vacant for now.

The board resolution to remove Babauta was adopted without much discussion in the open after vice chair Dela Cruz pointed out that the issue has thoroughly been discussed during their executive session.

As for the search for Babauta's replacement, Torres said the board has suspended its plan to tap the services of a recruiting company, HR Support CNMI, following revelation that the corporation's federal partners—the Office of Insular Affairs and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—will provide help in getting qualified candidates.

Torres said he was assured by Inos that a list of potential hospital CEOs will soon be provided to the board.

Candidates on the list were recommended by OIA and DHHS and would come from off-island.

With the board's final decision on Babauta's contract, Torres is optimistic that all other issues relating to the former CEO will put to rest. He admitted that the issues surrounding Babauta have divided the focus and attention of the corporation in dealing with its top priority, which is to complete the plans of Corrections for Medicare resurvey in July.

Babauta's sudden termination comes as no surprise due to the uneasy and troubled relationship between the board and the CEO. The board has been clashing with Babauta on a host of issues and the recent trip Babauta made to the Tinian Health Center—and failure to attend the scheduled board meeting—was the final straw.

Babauta was hired as corporation CEO in October 2011.

Inos: Heads may roll at CHC, NMC, other boards

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

More heads are expected to roll as Gov. Eloy S. Inos reviews the performances of agency heads and board members, even if they have not submitted courtesy resignations, such as those serving on the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. advisory board and the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents.

Inos said that, as of Saturday, he has yet to receive from the CHC board a copy of their decision terminating chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta ahead of the July 9 expiration of his contract.

The governor said he would have preferred that Babauta be allowed to finish his contract for a "smoother transition" and to make it "less disruptive" to CHC operations.

"I hope that they have good reasons, justifiable reasons for doing that [accelerated termination] and I hope the resolution supports that action. But again, the problem with this setup is, when it comes to termination or non-renewal of contract, the governor must accept [the board decision]," Inos told reporters at the official opening of the 2013 Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival Saturday morning.

"Now it looks like this resolution accelerates the end date of the contract to seven days from I guess they'd sent [the resolution] and received by the governor. And at this point, I haven't received it," Inos added.

Inos also looks forward to a meeting with the CHC board, if any, on the matter.

While Inos says he has no choice but to accept the board's decision in Babauta's case, that's not the case with governor-appointed board members who are not performing their fiduciary duty.

With or without courtesy resignations, Inos said the boards' performances are under review.

"If there's a breach in fiduciary duty, I get rid of them. I'm not going to ask for courtesy resignation and put them on notice," he said.

When asked if he is going to do such thing, the governor said, "I might. That's why I basically tell them be careful with how you administer things. For example, if the college [NMC] loses its accreditation, that's it for everybody."

He said this message applies to all other boards and commissions. The difference is that CHC, NMC, and about two or three other boards have not submitted any courtesy resignations yet.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) said yesterday it's "about time" board members are held accountable for their actions.

Pete A. as DPL secretary

On Friday, the governor nominated his senior policy adviser, Pete A. Tenorio, as Department of Public Lands secretary subject to the Senate's advice and consent.

Tenorio has been serving as acting DPL secretary since March 21 while the administration vetted potential candidates to fill the vacancy.

Inos clarified on Saturday that if and when the Senate confirms Tenorio's nomination, Tenorio will no longer be his senior policy adviser.

But Inos said Tenorio will continue to be consulted on a host of issues such as those dealing with public lands including Pagan vis-à-vis the U.S. military plans for it and some residents' desire to resettle there.

When asked whether he will name another senior policy adviser if the Senate confirms Tenorio, Inos said, "[Having a] senior policy advisor is good, but if you have good department secretaries, you probably don't need a senior policy advisor."

If confirmed by the Senate, Tenorio will fill a vacancy at DPL last filled by former secretary Oscar M. Babauta.

"Initially, I had asked Pete A. to manage the department while the lieutenant governor and I work on organizing the Executive Branch. Since he started at DPL, he's been actively working on resolving many pending public lands matters, including efforts to achieve a more efficient operation within the department," the governor said in a statement.

Tenorio is a former member of the Congress of Micronesia, and a member of the Marianas Political Status Commission that negotiated the Covenant that established the relationship between the Northern Marianas and the United States.

"More importantly, Pete A. brings with him a vast wealth of institutional knowledge as a former official of the then Marianas Public Lands Corp. Lt. Gov. [Jude] Hofschneider and I are confident that his strong background and his desire to make much needed reforms, will be a tremendous asset to our Commonwealth," the governor added.

Mondala removed

The governor also confirmed Saturday that Rose Mondala is no longer the director of the Office on Aging under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. However, Mondala would remain with DCCA to handle Older American Act grants and other related federal grants, Inos said. But even this post could just be a "transition" for Mondala.

Inos said it was acting DCCA secretary Laura Ogumoro that is handling this matter.

"That's her responsibility," he said.

He said he has been made aware of issues surrounding Mondala and the congregates.

Labor agricultural and livestock survey

The CNMI Department of Labor will be conducting an agricultural and livestock survey pursuant to a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas is requesting the cooperation and assistance of all farmers to please assist the department's staff in fulfilling this project. For additional information, call Bobbie T. Sablan, Administrative Services manager, at 664-3196. ***(PR)***

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Kilili confident of US defense vs NKorea

In response to continuing constituent questions about the U.S. response to threats of military action from North Korea, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) issued the following statement yesterday:

"Because we must take North Korea's threats of attack against the United States seriously, I want the people of the Northern Mariana Islands to know that I have received assurance that the U.S. military has the capacity and the commitment to defend American soil, including the Northern Marianas. Both civilian and uniformed officials from the Department of Defense are briefing Members of Congress regularly on these matters.

"As has been widely reported, the U.S. military has enhanced its missile defense posture in our region by moving a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system to Guam. Ships as well as other sea and land-based assets play a role in the U.S. defense against missiles of the type North Korea is known to possess. In addition, the U.S. Air Force has demonstrated its capacity to respond in any area of the globe with the recent flight of a B-2 bomber from Missouri to Korea and back.

"The U.S. will continue to monitor developments in North Korea closely and will continue to maintain the appropriate posture throughout the region and in concert with our allies to protect against aggressive action by North Korea. ***(PR)***

Trial of Michael Jackson to start today

Michael Anthony Jackson, a 39-year-old ex-convict facing charges of kidnapping and raping a minor, is expected to appear in Superior Court today for his jury trial.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho will preside over Jackson's trial.

Assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll is lead counsel for the prosecution. Assistant public defender Daniel T. Guidotti is lead defense counsel for Jackson.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Jackson with kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, and assault for the alleged rape of a 15-year-old girl on Saipan on Oct. 9, 2010.

Police said the girl was walking along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Fina Sisu on her way to her house at 1am when Jackson forced her into his car. He allegedly brought her to an open field south of the Saipan airport bunkers where he allegedly raped her inside his vehicle.

Jackson also allegedly forced the girl to smoke "ice" or methamphetamine. The girl later managed to run off. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Inos hints NMI child care program to remain at DCCA

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chances of the Public Schools System regaining control over the government's childcare program grows dim following Gov. Eloy S. Inos' statement that the administration needs to first thoroughly review the proposal.

At this time, Inos hinted that the status quo will remain. That means the program's administration will remain with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, pending the outcome of the extensive assessment. He set no timeframe as to when the review will begin and end.

"We will review the rationale for the transfer [request] and see if their proposal is justifiable," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* during the signing of an emergency directive at the healthcare corporation on Thursday.

Inos

Board of Education members and education officials have been reiterating their desire to take over the program since Inos assumed office in February.

The Childcare Development Program was under PSS for 15 years before it was turned over to DCCA in 2007 by virtue of an executive order signed by former governor Benigno R. Fitial.

The federal program provides the CNMI $1.9 million in annual grants from the U.S. Child Care and Development Block Grant Program.

At a recent meeting, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero said that among the reasons why the board wants to regain control of the program is the alleged constant complaints from daycare centers about delayed payment of reimbursement, sometimes by up to three months.

Guerrero said he was told that these delays have already resulted in the closure of some centers as they could not sustain their operations anymore.

DCCA also lacks the expertise to operate the program that is vital to the success of PSS' P-3 Initiative (Preschool to third grade), Guerrero said. He emphasized the need for the childcare program to have an "educational component" so that children can be better prepared for school.

Guerrero also earlier alleged that, at its current state, the childcare program is not being well run by DCCA.

When asked if the administration has received any complaints from daycare centers and other program vendors about delayed payments, the governor responded in the negative.

"Is that the reason why they want it back to PSS?" asked the governor.

Inos said "there was a reason" why the program was transferred to DCCA but he did not elaborate.

The Commonwealth uses the annual grant it receives under the program to pay for the services rendered by childcare centers. As of last year, the program has the following number of providers: 26 childcare centers; 21 family day care centers; and 1 home care provider.

For fiscal year 2012-2014, the CNMI childcare program is allocated $1.9 million. Of the amount, 5 percent is allowed for administrative costs, 8 percent for quality initiative programs, 8 percent for quality expansion, 5 percent for infant and toddler, and 1 percent for school age. The bulk of the fund is for the program's certification, which is 73 percent.

Last fiscal year, the program served about 433 children on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

NMC English and Math placement tests schedule

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting English and math placement tests on the following dates:

- April 24, 2013, at 9am
- April 26, 2013, at 1pm
- May 6, 2013, at 10am
- May 8, 2013, at 2pm
- May 15-17, 2013, at 10am
- May 15-17, 2013, at 3pm

Those who wish to take courses at NMC must take the placement tests. Registration for NMC's 2013 Summer Term will take place from May 22 to 23, 2013. Early registration for fall 2013 is taking place between April 8 and 26 for ongoing students. Visit nmcnet.edu for registration schedule.

There is a $25 fee for each placement test that must be paid in advance at the NMC Cashier (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4pm). No one will be allowed into the testing room without proof of payment (a receipt for the placement test fee or the NMC application fee). Payment for the application fee will cover the English placement test fee. Students who have a fee waiver must obtain a placement test slip from the Office of Admissions and Records prior to taking the test.

Test takers must also bring a valid photo ID (driver's license, passport or school ID) and pencils. No admittance to the testing room will be allowed after the starting time.

Those who wish to take the English or math placement test are strongly encouraged to contact testing coordinator Daniel Kintol to schedule an appointment. Walk-in test takers will also be accommodated based on seat availability. The average time to complete the English placement test is between 1.5 and 2.5 hours.

To schedule an appointment to take the English or math placement test or for more information, contact Kintol at 234-5398 ext. 1350 or visit Building I.

Calculators may be used when taking the math placement test. Test takers are not allowed to take the math placement test more than once. The only exception to this condition is for those who have *not* taken a math class within one year of taking the math placement test.

For additional information about the placement tests or registration, log on to www.nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **April 22**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **April 22**.

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MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The Talaabwogh StaR Association would like to extend our most heartfelt *Ghillisow, Si Yu'us Ma'asi,* and Thank You to all those who unselfishly and generously contributed, assisted, and supported our recently held "T-StaR Youth Prayer Rally and Alcohol and Drug-Free Talent Show", last Saturday, April 13, 2013, at the Tanapag Beach round house. The Prayer Rally and Talent Show was a huge success, allowing our community to come together as one and bring awareness as well as combat the drug and alcohol problem in our community.

This is a shared community success against the fight against drugs and alcohol attributable to the generosity and concern of our community partners that include:

1. St. Michael's Medical Response;
2. Pacific Islands Club;
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4. Division of Youth Services;
5. Department of Public Safety;
6. Rep. Chris LGuerrero
7. Jun & AJ Lizama, DJ Kaipat, & Ian Rogolofoi
8. Marvin DlGuerrero & Oliver Iguel
9. Mr. & Mrs. Bud White;
10. James Arriola;
11. Michelle Zayco;
12. Santa Remedios Parish Council;
13. Father Nonoy;
14. Kagman Boys Youth Group;
15. All the youth participants;
16. CHCC – Project Brabu.

There are countless others that have assisted as well and it would be impossible to list each and everyone without missing any, but do know that your help is greatly appreciated.

A special acknowledgement is well deserved by our courageous guest speakers, Mr. Inos Germinaro and Mr. Florencio Richards. We thank you for your honesty, sincerity, and courage to share your testimony to our community and most especially our youth. It was truly inspirational.

Finally, to the youth and the entire community of our wonderful village of Tanapag, for your participation, dedication, and hard work, *Ghillisow, Un dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'asi* and Thank you!

Man allegedly fondled tourist aboard jetski

A marine sports employee was arrested last week for allegedly fondling a female tourist while they were riding a jetski.

Mohammed Sohel, 42, was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace. His bail was set at $1,250 cash.

Police detective Rhonda John stated in her report that a police officer responded to a call at a hotel on April 16, at 5pm about an assault and battery incident.

The victim, a Chinese tourist, told police that she was riding a jetski with Sohel sitting behind her when he began fondling her. She accelerated the jetski then stopped it, causing Sohel to fall into the water. When he got back on the jetski, he fondled her again, prompting the tourist to throw herself off the jetski. She then told Sohel to take her back to shore, where she informed her husband about the incident.

The responding police officer later arrested Sohel. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Feria finishes basic Air Force training in TX

Air Force Airman 1st Class Eufemio Q. Feria recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Feria

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Feria is the son of Maria and Dicky Feria Sr. of Saipan.

He is a 2012 graduate of Marianas High School and was a member of the team that won the "Against All Odds" aviation merit award at the Real World Design Challenge in Washington, D.C. last year.

The award was in recognition of the team's hard work in overcoming a difficult situation while still making a respectable showing.

The Real World Design Challenge is an annual high school competition for all states and territories. In the year that Feria's team joined the contest, the main challenge was to develop an aircraft that could fly 200 miles in two hours. ***(AFNS)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Apr. 22, 2004

USDE won't release funds to PSS

The CNMI Public School System's funding from the U.S. Department of Education totaling close to $12 million remains on hold as the PSS has not been taken off the high-risk category. This despite the fact that PSS has already complied with all of the requirements asked of the USDE, according to Board of Education chairman Roman C. Benavente. "We are practically not clear yet from the liability [high-risk category]. We did submit our requirements. We have complied. We have updated our reports, but the thing is that it's hard for them [USDE] to admit it's their mistake," said Benavente. He said the USDE relayed in a March 2004 letter to Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos about the non-transmittal of needed funding, as requested earlier by the PSS.

FAA: Pacific area remains safe, no terror threats

Though island nations like the Northern Marianas and Guam can potentially be used as transit points for international terrorists, the CNMI and the entire Pacific area remain terror threat-free, according to a ranking official of the Federal Aviation Administration. William C. Withycombe, FAA's Western Pacific regional administrator, said yesterday that the Pacific area is humanly safe as possible as airport officials have increased their preparedness and security measures. "Aviation has always been safe and we at the FAA want it to be safer. That is the reason why we have established the Transportation Security Administration. There are more improvements on airport security to ensure the safety of the aviation industry," said Withycombe in an interview yesterday.

Apr. 22, 2005

The Legislature's personnel spending

The CNMI Legislature is currently budgeted at $9.083 million divided among the House of Representatives at $3.9 million, the Senate at $2.2 million, Legislative Bureau at $2 million, and NMI Youth Congress at $94,905. The annual legislative budget also covers $900,000 for legislative retirement benefits contribution. Statistics showed that the Legislature has 347 approved full-time equivalency or FTEs. The House of Representatives has 200, the Senate has 110, Legislative Bureau has 35, and the Youth Congress has two. The House consists of 18 lawmakers while the Senate has nine. Each of them receives a constitutionally mandated annual salary of $39,300 and $155,000 operations budget.

CUC falls short by $1.3M in Mobil payment

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. managed to raise yesterday barely a third of the $1.8-million payment being demanded by Mobil Oil Marianas. Pamela Mathis, CUC special adviser for corporate communications, said the utility firm would pay $500,000 to Mobil today. CUC is planning to settle the $1.3-million balance next Friday, April 29. At press time, Mathis did not have information as to whether the half million dollars came from CUC's own collections or the Babauta administration. Finance Secretary Fermin Atalig declined to confirm, saying he was away from the office all day meeting with visitors from the federal government. "The money might have come from the Finance Department. I'm not sure. I'll find out [Friday] morning," he said.

Apr. 22, 2006

'Article ignores the great strides we've made'

Washington Rep. Pedro A. Tenorio cried foul yesterday over the negative portrayal that the Northern Marianas received from a national feminist magazine, saying that Ms. Magazine's cover story was unfair and inaccurate. Former garment association executive Richard Pierce claims that the original story was actually extensively re-written by its editors to make it sensational. Tenorio said the article should prompt the Commonwealth to prove the magazine wrong and to correct the allegations should they be found true. For the most part, however, Tenorio expressed concern about the damaging effect that the story, as well as the ongoing Abramoff scandal, could have on the CNMI's credibility in Washington, D.C.

DPS, AGO told to improve probe techniques

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has urged the Department of Public Safety and the Attorney General's Office to improve their investigation techniques. Govendo suggested that DPS reevaluate the tools and skills that detectives use in conducting an investigation and preparing affidavits in support of arrest and search warrants. In addition, Govendo said the AGO should be consulted to guide police detectives in substantiating probable cause before submitting an affidavit to a judge.

2 Coast Guardsmen recognized as persons of the year for 2012

HONOLULU—Two Coast Guardsmen stationed in Hawaii and Guam were selected as the 2012 active duty enlisted person of the year and the reserve enlisted person of the year for the 14th Coast Guard District during a recognition dinner at Coast Guard Base Honolulu on April 5.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Erich J. Klinger, an aviation survival technician assigned to Air Station Barbers Point on Oahu, Hawaii, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Juan Taijeron, a boatswains mate assigned to Station Apra Harbor, Guam, were chosen as the enlisted person of the year and reserve enlisted person of the year.

Klinger

Taijeron

Klinger distinguished himself by taking a leadership role to help mentor six aviation survival technician airmen in completion of their rigorous physical fitness program. Kinger has been involved in 10 search and rescue missions in which he saved three lives. Klinger also took it upon himself to repair two life rafts that were initially believed to have been irreparable. He also rebuilt 12 oxygen heads for life rafts and redistributed surplus parachutes and survival suits to other aviation units saving the Coast Guard more than $22,000.

Klinger also assisted a local community in New Jersey impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

Taijeron has distinguished himself by amassing 385 hours underway and assisting in 141 missions. He is qualified as a crewmember aboard a Response Boat-Medium, one of the Coast Guard's newest vessels. He helped streamline his unit's armory program to ensure compliance with National standards. During his free time he assisted a fellow Coast Guardsman in marksmanship skills and helped make repairs to a jet dock, saving the Coast Guard approximately $10,000 in repairs and possible replacement parts.

His contributions to the local community included volunteering for the Angel Tree Project, in which Coast Guard volunteers donate toys to underprivileged children during the holidays. Taijeron also helped set up 12 static displays at public events to provide education about the Coast Guard and its operations.

Although all Coast Guard men and women perform a variety of missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, marine safety inspections, protection of fisheries, aids-to-navigation, port security and anti-terrorism patrols, illegal drug and migrant interdiction, and environmental protection, the EPOY program recognizes exceptional men and women in the Coast Guard's enlisted workforce who are top performers. Considered as the "best and brightest" from the field, these individuals are selected by a panel of senior enlisted members who evaluate each nominee against a set of established criteria that includes performance, work ethics, military bearing, standards of conduct and a strong community service commitment.

Klinger and Taijeron will compete for national honors with their peers from other Coast Guard Districts across the nation. The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, Michael P. Leavitt, will recognize the national winners in an award ceremony later this spring. ***(USCG)***

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- Completing needs assessments to determine what activities are needed, how often these will be offered, how seasons will affect these activities and what space or venue is required and available for participants
- Researching possible activity ideas, trying or sampling new activities and evaluating them as needed
- Creating activity schedules that reflects the Resort's needs and conceptualizing activities, which include but not limited to: kids club, sports activities, guest incentives, special packages, cultural activities, fitness center, cooperate events and tournaments
- Supervising sports and recreational staff members including lifeguards and other employees connected to the implementation of activities

Qualifications:

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- Minimum Experience: At least 3 years experience in sports and recreation, at managerial capacity, in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Excellent communication, organizational, and multitasking skills are a must
- Team player

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than May 15, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

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Opinion

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Breakthrough on immigration

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times *on Thursday, April 18:*

A bipartisan group of eight senators defied conventional wisdom and broke through years of political gridlock Wednesday when they unveiled a rational, pragmatic plan to overhaul the nation's unworkable immigration system. The bill they introduced would not only provide a path to citizenship for most of the 11 million immigrants who are in the United States illegally, but would also beef up security at the border, toughen immigration enforcement at the workplace and create a modern visa system to speed the pace of legal immigration while helping the U.S. remain competitive in a global economy.

Undoubtedly, the Senate bill introduced by the so-called Gang of Eight will face serious challenges and undergo many changes, especially in the House, where some Republicans have already signaled their intent to derail it, just as they did in 2007 with a similar measure. But we urge Congress to stand by what is best in this bill as the process gets underway. Though not perfect, the bill provides a very good starting point for the robust overhaul that is long overdue.

At the heart of the legislation is a plan to provide legal status—and a path to citizenship—for millions of immigrants living here illegally if they pass a criminal background check and pay a penalty and back taxes. Initially, they would be given a new status as "registered provisional immigrants"—neither citizens nor permanent residents, but not illegal either. Then they would have to wait 10 years (behind millions of others who have been patiently waiting in their home countries) before getting green cards, and another three before seeking citizenship.

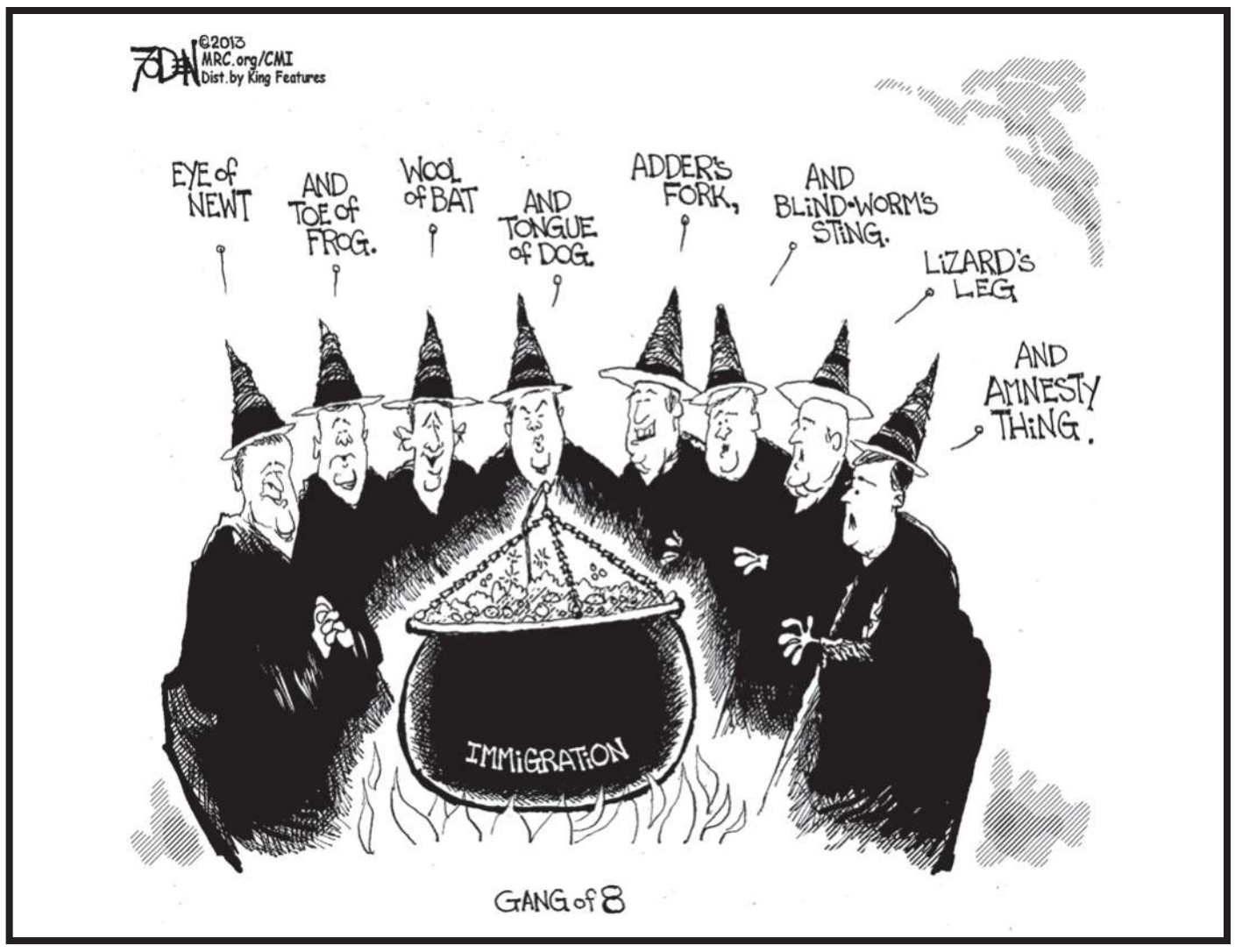
One worrisome element of the Senate plan is that it would tie the full legalization of undocumented immigrants in this country to border security benchmarks that are fuzzy and outside of their control. Before they could be sure that they would get and keep their legal status, it would have to be shown that the U.S.-Mexico border had been secured and that 90 percent of immigrants attempting to sneak across the busiest sectors were being turned back. Such arbitrary triggers make little sense and would keep millions of people waiting for far too long before knowing for certain that they could remain here permanently. Surely there's a fairer and more straightforward approach.

If the goal is to make sure that the United States doesn't find itself with a whole new group of illegal immigrants in another decade or two, the bill proposes many other steps designed to strengthen control of the borders and to toughen internal enforcement. For instance, it calls for spending more than $3 billion to add high-tech surveillance, including drones to patrol the border with Mexico. And it requires all employers within the next five years to begin using the controversial E-Verify program, which checks the immigration status of new hires against a federal database.

And though such measures may well be necessary to win Republican support, the reality is that illegal immigration has already dropped significantly for a variety of reasons, including the fact that many Latin American economies are growing at a faster pace than the U.S. economy.

Perhaps the most ambitious part of the bill is its admirable attempt to make modern sense out of the country's outdated

See BREAKTHROUGH on Next Page



Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

With the reported death of 26-year-old suspect No. 1 and the capture of 19-year-old suspect No. 2 of the recent Boston bombing blasts, the speculative field is ripe with both blooming spring flowers and wilted winter leftovers.

Our interest is a narrow one, purely etymological in the attributive sense.

Fourteenth century "Timur" to the Wiki crowd, "Tamerlane" was the Mongolian scourge of Central Asia, known in China as "Timudgin." History is replete with his influence, at once artistic and destructive, from the Urals to the Himalayas, the Caucasus to the Khinggan Range of Heilongjiang. Chechen Muslims, forced to move to Kyrgyzstan when Stalin still cast his shadow on Moscow's cobblestones, named their offspring in honor of the Mongol leader of mixed Turkic ethnicity.

Such was the case of suspect No. 1, named Tamerlan, reportedly married to a Rhode Island second year med student and father to a 3-year-old daughter. A media outlet could not help but blare a headline that Tamerlan's wife was from NK. Given the prominence of North Korea in recent news, it immediately caught our attention. NK turned out to be North Kingstown in RI south of Boston.

On his namesake for the history buffs: Timur wanted to restore Genghis Khan's Mongol empire. A devout Muslim, he called himself the *Sword of Islam.* He was generous in sharing war booty to members of his multi-ethnic armies. He became the most powerful ruler in the Muslim world, defeating rulers of Egypt and Syria, the Ottomans, and a Delhi sultanate. He defeated Christian knights at Smyrna and attempted to restore the Yuan dynasty in China. Known for leading the Golden Horde against the Cossacks, he is dubbed a "terrorist" in Western history books.

Younger brother suspect No. 2 was caught hiding and bleeding on a boat parked in a backyard in Watertown, MA, where the town literally had to shut down and stay indoors to accomplish the task. He was named "Dzhokhar" at birth, presumably after the first president of independent Chechnya, himself meeting a violent death by laser-guided satellite missile in a 1996 assassination while he was on his cell phone.

Chechnya's desire to separate from the Russian Federation of States after the dissolution of the Soviet Union met with the strong-willed objection of Vladimir Putin who headed the KGB at the time. Putin now presides over Russia. Other than setting a bad example to other states that might be inclined to seek secession from the Federation, Chechnya was also a hub for the Russian oil industry, an asset Russia could hardly give up. It was also caught between the definition of Georgia-Russian relations, and in an oil rich region, it can hardly avoid the violence that now mars north and south of the Caucasus mountain range between the Black and Caspian Seas.

Now, to the Brothers Tsarnaev. "Tsar" of the first syllable is to the Byzantine what "Ceasar "was to the Romans and "Kaiser" to the Germans. If one has not gotten the picture yet that the brothers might carry highly "political" consciousness just by their names, we've missed the billboard for the weeds.

Of course, just because one is named Mohammed or Abdullah does not automatically stereotype one to a definite corner. Is our musing pertinent to figuring out the "why" of the Boston bombing? Nope. But the press coverage henceforth will cover a lot of historical terrain unfamiliar to the regular reader.

Four analytical results have already emerged.

There is the jihadist foreign intervention strain, the brothers being of the moralistic bent now raging across Arab Spring, beyond and distinct from the traditional division of the Sunnis and the Shiites.

Then there is the rightist/leftist dichotomy, irrelevant from our view but dear to diehard ideologues. Given the suspects' names, this is a difficult minefield to traverse but there will be those who will find a way to mark the various blasts.

We have the emotional stability crowd that will armchair us to endless psychoanalysis 'til kingdom come. Culturally integrated and acculturated guys on regular baseball caps and backpacks have to be extremely schizophrenic to merit the psychoanalyst's attention.

The fourth is the fraud claim, already aired by an aunt who testifies to the innocence of her nephews, and students at Dzhokhar's school who swear that the Chechen was in school when the blasts went off.

News that the White House is deporting a Saudi Arabian is allegedly being espoused by no less than Glenn Beck. The finger pointing, the smear on the foggy mirror, is multi-directional and the media field day has already begun.

I've lit candles for the confirmed dead: 8-year-old Martin Richard, 29-year-old Krystelle Campbell, and the Boston U graduate student Lu Lingzi of Shenyang. Their innocence reminds us of the global complicity of victimhood in our time.

A fourth big candle goes to the Waco, Texas fertilizer plant explosion victims. A fifth is for those affected this week by the tremor that revisited the same Sichuan area quaked in 2008.

The tail end of winter is still with us. Our heart keeps company with the cold.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Straining under heavy debts

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John S. DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

Our fiscal posture in the late '80s was humming it's hard to even notice there are debts to pay or curb deficit spending. We devoured anything that flies by and did it with ease too.

That was when we had lots of money. Our coffer, however, has taken a gigantic, involuntarily crash diet in recent past and the crushing piles of debt have inhibited fiscal mobility.

Do we now rehearse new musical themes like the usual "que sera, sera" or "I've bent so long I thought it was up"? I'd intone "Ti Gi Un' Palasyon Riku," given its message of humility. It reminds us that though we may not have much, we're happy campers with whatever little we have in our pockets, pennies they may be.

This has translated into a dangerously wobbly fiscal posture taking a turn for the worse.

Today, we stand like a decimated frog at the edge of Lake Susupe, straining to swallow a mosquito we caught accidentally. It's a worrisome sight, ugly in all its form and substance, bringing into focus whether we've hit rock bottom or are we still sliding further south?

Small business is basically the backbone of most economies of scale. Their expansion is encouraged in venues where policies are fitting, like far less taxes to business-friendly policy arrangements.

Conversely, in venues where taxes are high, where policies are stifling and disorienting, most would put up shutters or those who search for investment homes would simply move elsewhere. This is what happened to California where investments contracted significantly while Texas enjoyed an expansion.

Now with stifling federal immigration policy, federal minimum wage we can't afford, prohibitive utility rates that have forced businesses to put up shutters, and collateral policies that have forced the exodus of foreign capital, all these present a multitude of problems for prospective investors. Yet the need for more revenue spikes by leaps and bounds while degeneration races the other way.

Troubling, isn't it? Eh, this is where real, not perceptual, leadership comes into play.

Incomplete equation

While it's politically correct to blabber off assertions on planned "20 percent cut," the greater question is whether private industries have expanded concurrently to cushion the needs of employees who may be released via reduction-in-force.

This issue isn't rocket science for anyone to chance answering in the affirmative. Federal and local policies have annihilated the local economy, coupled by the prohibitive cost of utilities that have forced a good number of businesses to close their doors.

We try to understand the cataclysmic economic conditions at home while staring at the fiscal cliff that keeps getting deeper by the day. It means proceeding with deficit spending given the significant contraction of revenue generation. Troubling, isn't it?

This is where the term "leadership" comes into play. If leadership means helping others, then employ rate performance on yourself as a member of the elected elite: What have you done to move the lot of the multitude to a level playing field gift-wrapped in "prosperity"?

Minimum waging out of

President Obama has sent his staff to various locations preaching why increasing the federal minimum wage would lift people out of poverty. He wants to elevate federal minimum wage from $7.25 an hour to $9 an hour. Sounds good but it comes with tons problems too.

National columnist Austin Hill said, "…mere laws don't 'lift people out of poverty'—genuine wealth creation does. Using the force of government to mandate that a business owner pay a worker a specific wage does not ensure that wealth is being created. On the contrary, such laws are coercive mechanisms of wealth redistribution and they only ensure that an increasing amount of existing wealth is taken away from one individual or group and transferred to another.

"History, even recent history over the course of our lifetimes, demonstrates this. While roughly half of the world's population—about 3 billion people—live in measurable poverty today, the other roughly 3 billion are measurably "middle class" and mostly facing upward mobility.

"So what has happened to the more fortunate 3 billion? We have not been "minimum waged" to wealth. We've been fortunate to live in countries where we've been relatively free to privately own property and advance in the marketplace and amass wealth for ourselves.

"The best examples of this have been post-World War II Japan, Singapore, and Hong Kong, along with the increasingly liberated economies of China and India. Many Americans seem oblivious to this capitalistic, free market transformation that has taken place over the last few decades—surely if we were aware of this we wouldn't have elected our current crop of politicians who are taking us in the exact opposite direction—but the transformation is nonetheless real.

"Another problem with acting U.S. Labor Secretary Seth Harris' promises is that they are based on the false assumptions that government bureaucrats understand the inner-workings of a business than a business owner does, and that government mandates always produce their desired outcomes. Can every small business in Charlotte—or anywhere else in the U.S.—afford to 'absorb' the increased labor costs that will ensue with a higher minimum wage mandate? Harris is frequently asked about the unintended consequences of his policy proposals, and will frequently say 'I reject the notion that this kills jobs.'

"Did you hear that business owners? He 'rejects' it, so it is obviously not a concern. In fact, Harris promised the minimum wage earning Charlotteans that raising the minimum wage requirement will actually improve wages overall, and stimulate job creation."

Ooops! Dream on! It's a concept that destroys more jobs than Harris is willing to admit.

Immigration reform

Editor's Note: *The following is a statement issued by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) about the long-awaited comprehensive immigration reform bill, the inclusion of specific provisions for the Northern Mariana Islands, and how it could help the NMI economy.*

By GREGORIO KILILI C. SABLAN
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is the delegate of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Immigration policy—for our country and for the Northern Mariana Islands—is a complex and sometimes divisive issue. But we all agree there are problems that need to be fixed. So I congratulate the eight senators who had the courage and determination to work together on this bill to find solutions.

I am also grateful to them for including solutions for the Northern Marianas. The national issues are huge—border security, 11 million illegal aliens, keeping families together, reforming immigration policy so it helps our economy—844 pages of legislation. The Northern Marianas issues are small by comparison—just four pages in the bill—but critically important to us. The costs associated with the current immigration system are a burden to businesses and individuals and take money out of our economy. Uncertainties about the future availability of labor are holding back investment by existing and potential businesses in the Marianas. I very much appreciate that, despite the difficulties of finding agreement on the larger national concerns, the senators were still willing to take the time to listen to what I had to say about the Northern Marianas and include us in their comprehensive immigration reform bill.

Ever since I came to Congress, I have had to work on fixing Public Law 110-229, which extended federal immigration law to the Northern Mariana Islands. In the last Congress I introduced legislation, H.R. 1466, that provided status to groups of people who were completely forgotten when 110-229 was enacted. These people were protected under Commonwealth immigration law; and now they have all been included in the Senate bill. If you were born in the Northern Marianas before 1978, or became a permanent resident under CNMI law, or are part of U.S.-citizen family, you can stay in your home. You can work here in the Northern Marianas. You can travel. And after five years you can apply for a green card. If this bill becomes law, it will put an end to all the uncertainty and keep those families together.

Public Law 110-229 also created uncertainty for businesses and their employees. We don't even know if we will have CW workers after 2014. But the Senate bill adopts immigration policy that will help the Marianas economy. It would get rid of the annual CW applications and fees for many workers. It acknowledges that our businesses have a big investment in workers who have been here for 10 years or more, who know their jobs, who are really a permanent part of our economy. It recognizes that foreign workers are not just workers; they are taxpayers and consumers. Our population has already dropped from 80,000 to 50,000; we can't afford to lose any more people. So the Senate bill allows long-term workers, who have been here since at least 2003, to stay as long as they want. They can work. They can travel. Then—after another five years contributing to life in the Northern Marianas—they can apply for U.S. permanent resident status, if they want to. That's fair. It's good for our economy. And it will help end the years of confusion and argument about immigration in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Of course, getting the Senate Gang of Eight bill to the President and signed into law is not going to be easy. Many people in Congress and around the country will be opposed. There is going to be a lot of debate in the weeks ahead. I will certainly be paying attention to what my constituents say. But I do believe that the time has come to take action and fix immigration—for our country and for the Northern Mariana Islands. And I am very glad that after years of hard work we are in the bill that will be the basis for whatever passes Congress.

BREAKTHROUGH

From Page 10

visa system. Among other things, it would provide more visas on the basis of applicants' skills and education and fewer for extended family members.

Under the proposed rules, although extended family members would no longer get as much of a leg up, about half of all visas issued would still be awarded to the spouses and children of legal immigrants and citizens. The realities of today's economy would be addressed by increasing the number of high-tech visas and creating a merit system that would give points to individuals based on education, employment and other factors. Such changes are long overdue. Consider, for example, that Microsoft had more than 6,200 jobs for engineers and computer scientists in January that it couldn't fill, in part because many of the young people graduating from American universities in those fields are foreign students who need visas to remain in the United States. The Senate bill would address that problem.

It would also create a new guest worker program for people who want to come to this country as farm workers temporarily; those workers would be expected to return to their home countries when their visas expire. Although legitimate questions have been raised about a program that creates an official new tier of second-class, nonresident workers, the idea could be acceptable if enough protections for workers are included to ensure that guest workers are not at the mercy of employers. The bill also creates a new W visa that would allow in as many as 200,000 low-skilled house cleaners, landscapers and workers in other occupations over the coming decade.

The bill clearly has weaknesses. But its strengths—including a provision to fast-track the legalization of the so-called Dreamers, or young people who were brought to the U.S. as minors and are enrolled in college or served in the military—far outweigh our concerns at this point.

That this bill came together at all is extraordinary given the political climate in Washington today, and it presents lawmakers with an opportunity to do what they were elected to do. But the path ahead will be neither straight nor smooth, and they will have to muster a fair amount of political courage to hammer out a humane and workable immigration law that does right by this country, all of its residents and those who hope to make a new life here.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

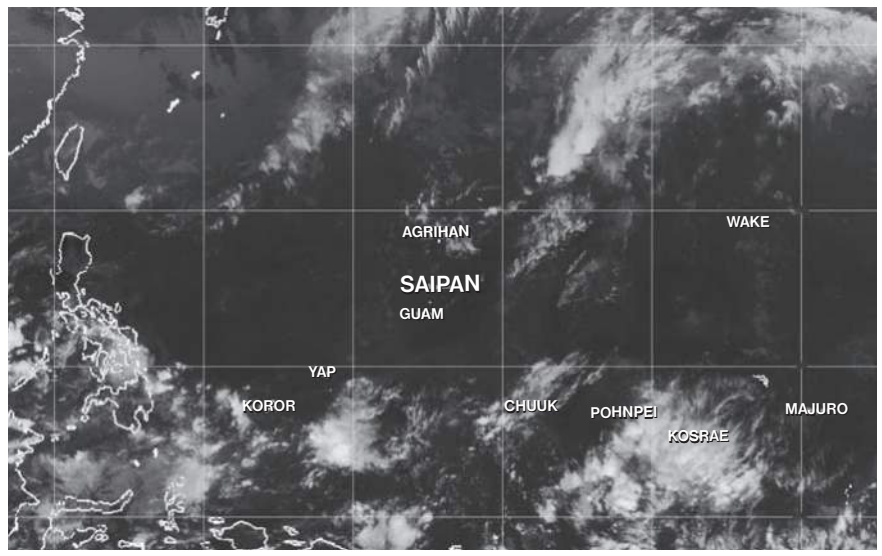
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85	▼79
Kosrae	Showers	▲85	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲70	▼62
Beijing	Cloudy	▲69	▼48
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼71
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼71
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼50
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼56
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲93	▼82
Melbourne	Showers	▲68	▼52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼73
New York	Sunny	▲55	▼41
Osaka	Sunny	▲63	▼46
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲60	▼45
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼52
Rome	Showers	▲61	▼47
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼40
San Francisco	Sunny	▲75	▼58
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼46
Tokyo	Sunny	▲62	▼45
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼43

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends from 25N133E and continues past 130E at 21N. Scattered showers ahead of this front can be found between 20N and 25N from 130E to 138E. A stationary front stretches from near 25N160E to 22N150E to 25N140E. Scattered showers are located between 23N and 25N from 143E to 150E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found between 22N and 25N from 150E to 160E. A surface trough extends from near 7N130E to 6N136E to EQ148E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with this trough are located over Palau between 2N and 9N from 130E to 141E. Low-level convergence east of the trough is producing scattered showers south of Chuuk between 4N and 8N from 148E to 152E. Another surface trough stretched from EQ157E to 5N158E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found south of a line that stretches from EQ152E to 10N160E to EQ168E. This area covers Pohnpei and Kosrae. Low-level convergence is producing scattered showers southeast of Majuro south of a line that extends from EQ172E to 8N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:01 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:27 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
6:11 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:59 AM	6:33 PM
Tuesday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Wednesday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:33 PM
Friday	5:56 AM	6:33 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:13 PM	2:54 AM
Tuesday	4:06 PM	3:36 AM
Wednesday	5:02 PM	4:20 AM
Thursday	6:01 PM	5:07 AM
Friday	7:03 PM	5:57 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 4, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)

SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:20pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:45am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN

SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:05am	12:45am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The governor and his emergency NCD panel

Gov. Eloy Inos has established an "NCD emergency" and has directed the Commonwealth Health Center to form a committee to oversee prevention strategies. The diseases he lists are: "heart disease, stroke, many cancers, asthma, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease, and cataracts."

I don't know beans about asthma (except that I had it as a kid) or cataracts, but I am familiar with most of the other diseases mentioned, and many of them have similar causes.

The causes are eating the wrong foods, drinking the wrong drinks, smoking, lack of exercise, and not taking nutritional supplements.

There is also a good case to be made for the damage caused by acid-forming foods, which most people eat around here. Alkaline-forming foods are far, far healthier. If you are curious about which foods are alkaline-forming, visit Google. (Celery is one).

Here's my idea on prevention, which I hope the committee at CHC will take into consideration. The target groups ought to be kids in elementary school, middle school, and high school. The younger, the better.

An 8-year-old probably does not smoke cigarettes or consume alcohol. But they do eat the wrong things, especially foods and drinks with sugar, white rice, white bread, and processed meat of all kinds. Sugar tastes great! But it contributes to nearly every disease, and depresses the immune system.

But the dietary problem is not just an individual matter. It is also a social and cultural problem as well. People grew up eating white rice with meat-in-a-can, and it's part of the "lifestyle" here. To serve a kid a piece of chicken with freshly cooked vegetables is more easily said than done.

Also, major illnesses such as cancer, diabetes (type 2), and heart disease often take years to manifest in an individual. You don't just "come down" with cancer, the way you do a cold. But, little by little, a lousy diet, smoking, drinking and a sedentary lifestyle will bring you down.

And if you receive a diagnosis of cancer, or diabetes, or coronary disease, then your life will change forever. Your old way of life is over; now you can expect regular trips to the doctor, blood work, waiting in hospital corridors, and the inevitable stress that can compound any disease. Is it worth it?

Is it worth eating white rice, meat-in-a-can, and drinking soda every day, knowing that eventually they will make you sick and may even kill you?

For some here, the mentality seems to be, "I would rather eat what I like and die young than eat foods I don't like."

Not everyone feels this way, and children especially are usually optimistic about their futures and what they might be able to accomplish. That is why they must be the target groups for any prevention initiative.

Planting the seeds of healthy living at an early age will go a long way to reducing the numbers of NCD's down the road.

Russ Mason
Donni Springs, Saipan

At the crossroads for casinos or ferries

The CNMI is truly at the crossroads to our future. For almost a decade we have been told that casinos are our *only* hope and we were never given any other option. I told the people years ago that the Fitial-Inos administration *was not* going to stop until they got casinos on Saipan! But think about it because God is in this too, which is why in the eleventh hour when the administration finally had us on our knees and willing to accept casinos, we were sent a miracle in the form of *free* ferry to oppose the need for Saipan casinos. In fairness I must say the Inos administration is trying but in reality we must be cognizant that only a few branches were cut because it is still the same tree that was planted *for* casinos.

We now have a legitimate option for building our casino industry's production, so it's more casinos on Saipan *or* a ferry service industry that will build the casino industry on Tinian Rota—the decision is just that simple.

The problem is that the administration is forcing its desire for casinos over ferries, which is why they are trying to kill the start of a ferry industry with the *Susitna*. But I am very confident the people's choice will be the *Susitna* and a ferry industry over Saipan casinos if given the choice because they have voted down casinos twice.

The Legislature's check on the Executive Branch can't stop with the impeachment but must continue on *all* projects and activities, especially when they have the potential to affect the character, the social, and economic welfare of the CNMI. There is now an abundance of proof with the Legislature that Fitial and now Governor Inos have both wrongfully avoided the possible acquisition of the *Susitna*. The grant officer never even looked up or applied for the grants, the investor stakeholders in the ferry service were never approached to see how much financial and infrastructure assistance they would offer the CNMI for the ferry service, along with misleading and even fraudulent reports on the *Susitna* to kill the *Susitna* in the minds of the people. The governor must be held accountable for not properly vetting the *Susitna*, the failures of our Grant Office and the misleading stories of government sources.

The people not only voted for impeachment, I'm sure they were also voting for *new* and *better* things to appear on the horizon like a ferry service industry, not the decades-old cry for casinos. This administration will use any excuse as the casinos have been promised to help education, CHC, land compensation, other things, and now the Retirement Fund BS. But I want to thank all the newly elected members of the Legislature who are not buying the governor's lip service and have taken an interest in the *Susitna*. The majority of people who are already against casinos on Saipan will appreciate their efforts so please call your representative to thank them and show your support for ferries.

With the ocean being our *only* highway, if our governor can't figure out how to use a *free* $80 million ferry that even comes with federal assistance to get it transported here, to operate and to train people, then we are still in deep trouble. God has delivered a miracle in the *Susitna* that we can get for *free* and operate without using CNMI funds but our governors have tried to make us believe that it is some kind of mirage or deception—a classic good versus evil.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Looking for Carl

I have been looking for my sibling brother that retired on Saipan in August 2006. His name is Carl T. Inglehart, a retired medical service officer. He would be approximately 77 years of age. His birthday is April 23. Would love for you to search or put a notice in your local newspaper a happy birthday greeting to my brother Carl Jr. I have not heard from him since 1980. Please email any information ASAP. I am his only sister.

Gloria A Inglehart
Austin, TX

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation:
Division of Public Health

PROJECT BRABU

STRATEGIC PREVENTION FRAMEWORK STATE PREVENTION ENHANCEMENT

(SPF-SPE) CONFERENCE 2013

Join our conference to listen in on shared and reviewed recommendations received from the CNMI's community districts on substance abuse prevention needs and priority areas.

Save the Date!

Friday, April 26, 2013 – Saipan

This is a FREE event! Registration is limited – call to reserve your seat!

For venue, time and registration information, please contact Project Brabu at **236-8703**

A drop of prevention is worth an ocean of cure.

Selective Service seeks board members

The Selective Service System wants to hear from men and women in the community who are interested in serving as members of SSS local boards. Local board members are uncompensated volunteers who play an important community role closely connected with the nation's defense. If a military draft becomes necessary, approximately 2,000 local and appeal boards throughout America would decide which young men in their community receive deferments, postponements, or exemptions from military service, based on federal guidelines. Two positions are currently open on Saipan and one position on Rota.

Prospective board members must be citizens of the United States, at least 18 years old, registered with Selective Service; if men, not an employee of any law enforcement occupation, not be an active or retired member of the Armed Forces and not have been convicted for any criminal offense. Once identified as qualified candidates for appointment, they are recommended by the governor and appointed by the director of Selective Service, who acts on the behalf of the President in making appointments. Each new board member receives five hours of initial training after appointment, followed by two hours of annual training for as long as he or she remains in the position. They may serve in board member positions up to a total of 20 years, if desired.

If you believe you meet the standards of Selective Service board membership and wish to be considered for appointment, contact the CNMI point of contact Vince Merfalen via email at vince.merfalen@gov.mp or via telephone at 670-664-2200. ***(Office of the Governor)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Navy training at Warning Area 517

The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 ON April 23 and 24, from 8am to 4pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

CCA board meeting TOMORROW

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding a meeting tomorrow, April 23, 2013, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(CCA)***

OPA to visit Tinian, Rota

Staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Tinian on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, and Rota on Thursday and Friday, April 25-26, 2013, to notarize and accept last-minute filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials. Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Mayor's Office from 8am to 4:30pm on Wednesday, April 24. Filers on Rota may visit the Rota Mayor's Office from 1pm to 4:30pm on Thursday, April 25, and from 8am to 4:30pm on Friday, April 26. All filers are reminded to bring with them some form of photo identification, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services. ***(OPA)***

MHS Class of '83 sets meeting

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone to join its general meeting on Friday, April 26, 2013, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe at 7pm. For more information, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. ***(PR)***

ARC health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health and Safety training on the following dates:

- April 24 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED
- April 25 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED
- April 30 at 6pm: Blended Learning (Pediatric CPR/AED)

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Blended Learning courses involve online courses with in-person skills exam and require at least 48-hour preregistration. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459 or visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class. ***(ARC)***

Kagman High Class of '04 reunion meeting

The Kagman High School Class of 2004 will have a class reunion meeting on May 7, Tuesday, at the pavilion across the JP Center Bldg., Garapan, at 6:30pm. All classmates are urged to be present and should also help pass the information to other classmates. For more information or inquiry, email ayuyu2004reunion@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Labor agricultural and livestock survey

The CNMI Department of Labor will be conducting an agricultural and livestock survey pursuant to a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas is requesting the cooperation and assistance of all farmers to please assist the department's staff in fulfilling this project. For additional information, call Bobbie T. Sablan, Administrative Services manager, at 664-3196. ***(PR)***

EAM LINEUP

April is Environmental Awareness Month! Come join in on this week's events!

- **April 22 is Earth Day!** Log on to DEQ's Facebook page, facebook.com/CNMIDEQ, to share what your pledge for the environment will be!
- **Trash In Fashion Show**: April 25th at the Hard Rock Cafe. High school students will design and craft original high-fashion clothing entirely out of recycled material. Contact Olivia Tebuteb Tenorio at 664-8500.
- **Islandwide Cleanup**: April 26 from 3pm to 4:30pm and April 27 from 8am to 10am. Contact coordinator Leilani S. Deleon Guerrero at 664-8500 to find out how to get involved!
- **CRM's "Where Does Trash Go?" photo competition**: Take your cameras and phones on a mission to answer the question, where does trash go? Submit up to three photos in this year's Environmental Awareness Month's digital photo to contest (deadline April 26). All ages are welcome to compete for great prizes! Submit your entries to Coastal Resources Management or e-mail them to nicole.schafer@crm-saipan.com.
- **Our Laolao photo competition**: Details on the Our Laolao Facebook, entries due April 19! https://www.facebook.com/OurLaolao. Or contact Rachelle Muna at rachellemuna@gmail.com.

For general information about Environmental Awareness Month, contact Avra Heller at avrahellerdeq@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW/SWMD13-RFP-002

RECEIVE, PROCESS AND MARKET SOURCE SEPARATED RECYCLABLES/OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF) AT LOWER BASE REFUSE TRANSFER STATION, SAIPAN

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through Acting Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals to **Receive, Process and Market Source Separated Recyclables/Operation and Maintenance of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station (LBRTS)** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **April 15, 2013** at the DPW, Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station, Saipan. A Non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (**US$100.00**) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Solid Waste Management Division Office. **A Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference** is schedules at **10:00 a.m., local time** on **May 01, 2013** at the Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station Conference Room. **Questions regarding this RFP** must be submitted in writing to Solid Waste Management Division, Pagu Avenue, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 322-2762 no later than **4:30 p.m. local time, May 06, 2013**.

EVALUATION PROCESS & CRITERIA: This procurement is made in accordance with NMIAC §70-30.3-210 of the CNMI Procurement Rules and Regulations as revised. Proposals for the project will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Technical Requirements:

1.) Qualifications and Experience of the Firm-20%
2.) Experience or equivalent on similar projects-20%
3.) Technical Approach-35%
4.) Cost-25%

Cost:

Price is also a factor that will be considered and will be evaluated in comparison with the overall merit of the proposals. Technical merit is more important than price, and the Government reserves the right to award to other than the lowest proposer. As proposals become more equal in technical merit, the importance of price will increase.

Discussions may be conducted with the responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offer. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract. The firm selected will be subject to a responsibility determination to conformance with the Procurement Regulations Section 3-301 and must possess a valid CNMI Business License.

Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be most advantageous to the government taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in this request for proposal. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

Proposers must submit an original and four (4) copies of signed; sealed proposals marked **DPW/SWMD-13-RFP-002 "Receive, Process and Market Source Separated Recyclables/Operation and Maintenance of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Lower Base Transfer Station (LBRTS)"** to the office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **2:00 p.m., local time, May 15, 2013**. Proposal submitted by firms outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 15, 2013** and must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive by **May 24, 2013**. Proposers outside the Commonwealth must notify the Director of Procurement and Supply, in writing, of their intent to submit in order to receive this additional seven (7) working days for the receipt of the actual proposal documents. This notice of intent to submit may be any mode of written communication including facsimile to 670-664-1515 or email to procurement@pticom.com but must be received no later than **2:00 p.m., local time, May 15, 2013**.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-GOV-032

Opening and Closing of Burial Vaults at Marpi Public Cemetery

The Office of the Governor, Capital Improvement Program is inviting the submission of bids ("ITB13-GOV-032") for the provision of services related to the opening and closing of burial vaults at Marpi Public Cemetery ("Cemetery"). The ITB will follow the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Procurement Regulation and specifically those related to "Competitive Sealed Bidding." The ITB package will be available on April 22, 2013 at the CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration office, Capitol Hill. Submitted Bids must conform to the format and requirements identified in the ITB.

For Bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. (Saipan Time), Tuesday, May 21, 2013 ("Bid Closing Time"):

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Marianas Procurement & Supply – Lower Base
P.O.Box 510008 CK
Saipan, Mp 96950

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a notice of intent to bid ("Notice of Intent to Bid"). Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00a.m. (Saipan Time) May 21, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 21, 2013 and must be received no later than May 31, 2013 4:30 p.m. (Saipan Time).

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. (Saipan Time), June 03, 2013 unless a Notice of Intent to Bid is timely received. If no Notice of Intent to Bid is timely filed then bids will open at 10:30 a.m. local time, on May 21, 2013 The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS
Governor

/s/ Arnold Palacios
DLNR Secretary

/s/ Herman Sablan
P&S Director

OAG EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

The Roger Igisomar Employee of the Year Award is presented this year to Clarinda "Lyn" Castro Ocampo, a legal secretary at the Office of the Attorney General Civil Division in a ceremony held at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on April 15, 2013. Honorable Mention went to attorney David Lochabay, OAG investigator Vincent Babauta, and administrative officer Wilfred Villagomez. The award recognizes an employee at the OAG who exemplifies Igisomar's dedication and hard work to public service. Igisomar was an employee of the OAG who succumbed to cancer on April 12, 2012. The OAG marks the anniversary of his death with the awarding of the Employee of the Year Award in his honor. Special guests for the event were Roger Igisomar's mother "Tan Epa," along with his siblings, nieces and nephews. Also in the photo are Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, 2012 Roger Igisomar Employee of the Year Award recipient chief investigator Edward Cabrera, Attorney General Joey San Nicolas, and deputy AG Viola Alepuyo. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Fund asks court to suspend proceedings in CPA motion

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has asked the federal court to suspend the proceedings in the Commonwealth Ports Authority's emergency motion to remand to Superior Court the Fund's lawsuit against the CNMI government.

In the Fund's memorandum to support a stay of proceeding filed Wednesday, Fund counsel Braddock J. Huesman said the U.S. District Court for the NMI should hear CPA's motion until the completion of the settlement process in Betty Johnson's lawsuit against the Fund and the CNMI government.

Huesman said the result of the settlement process with Johnson is almost certain to decide whether the case proceeds any further or not.

"A stay of proceedings in this case during the pendency of the Johnson settlement proceeding is therefore warranted as a matter of judicial economy," he said.

The lawyer said this will allow the parties to avert unnecessary costs and avoid imposing the burden of wasteful and onerous litigation on both the court and the parties.

Huesman said there is no danger of prejudice to any party because the CNMI government does not oppose the stay and the CPA's motion to remand would be rendered moot.

CPA recently filed a motion for writ of mandamus, asking the Superior Court to direct the Fund to comply with Public Law 17-82 that allows Fund members to withdraw the full amount of their contributions without separating from the government.

Because of CPA's motion for writ, the Fund then removed its 2006 lawsuit filed in Superior Court and then transferred it to federal court.

The removal prompted CPA to file its emergency motion in federal court.

In the emergency motion, CPA legal counsel Robert T. Torres said the removal petition implicates no federal interest and ignores the important interest of the Commonwealth in enforcing its laws.

NMC Charter Day Committee extends deadline for contests

The Northern Marianas College Charter Day Committee has extended the deadline for those who are interested in participating in the Charter Day competitions: Marianas Idol, Battle of the Bands, the Clash of the Crews dance competition, and the Hilux Truck and Sport Compact Car Show competition. The new deadline to submit registration forms has been extended to Friday April 26, 2013.

The Charter Day celebration will be held on Friday, May 3, 2013, at the NMC field from 4pm to 10pm. The event will be showcasing various programs, celebrating employee and student achievement, and featuring great entertainment. Delicious food, drinks, and games will also be offered for sale by numerous vendors.

The registration fee to compete in the car show is $20. To enter the car show without competing is $10. Registration forms for the car show and competitions may be picked up at the NMC Student Center (Building J), or can be downloaded online at www.nmcnet.edu. For additional information, contact Queanna Sablan at 234-5498 Ext. 1253 or email queannas@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Division of Public Health Services

WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines 2013-2014

On March 29, 2013, a Notice announcing the revised WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines was published in the Federal Register. The adjusted income eligibility guidelines are used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the WIC Program. **The CNMI WIC Program will be implementing the new guidelines effective May 1, 2013.** So please check to see if you now qualify.

To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines (see below).

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines
(Effective from May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014)

48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories					
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	$21,257	$1,772	$886	$818	$409
2	28,694	2,392	1,196	1,104	552
3	36,131	3,011	1,506	1,390	695
4	43,568	3,631	1,816	1,676	838
5	51,005	4,251	2,126	1,962	981
6	58,442	4,871	2,436	2,248	1,124
7	65,879	5,490	2,745	2,534	1,267
8	73,316	6,110	3,055	2,820	1,410
Each Add'l Member Add	+$7,437	+$620	+$310	+$287	+$144

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or Medicaid automatically meet the income eligibility requirement. For more information please call the WIC Clinic at 664-4084.

"In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

"Healthy Families for a Lifetime."

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 236-8201/2 • Fax: (670) 236-8756

Thousands troop to AMP for 2013 Environmental Expo

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2013 Environmental Expo hosted by the Division of Environmental Quality drew at least 1,400 students to the American Memorial Park last week to learn about environmental education and conservation outside a classroom setting.

The students, comprising fourth and fifth graders from a dozen public and private elementary schools on island, visited the expo from April 16 to 18.

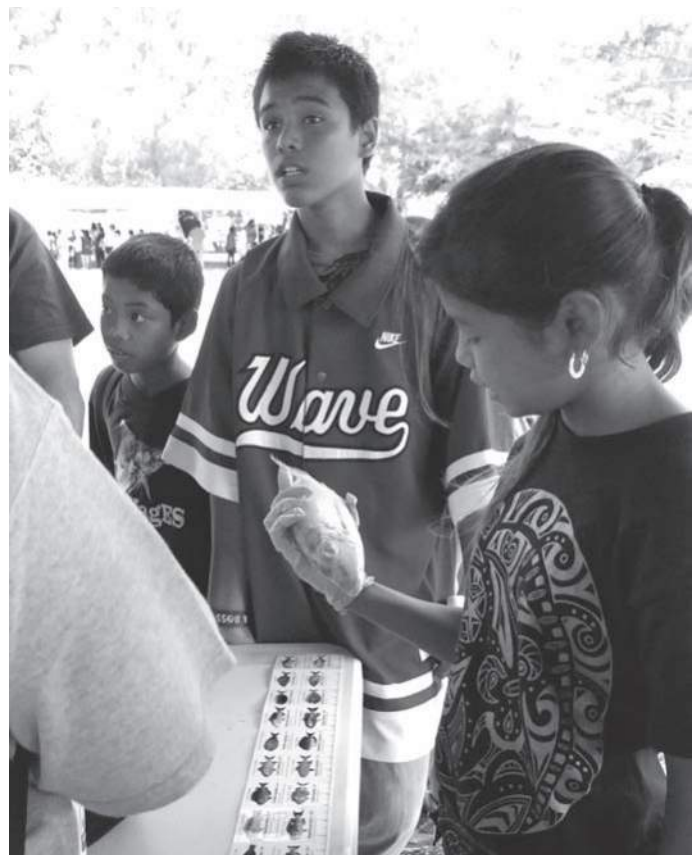
The young learners gained knowledge about a wide array of environmental topics from close to 30 booths and presenters.

The three-day expo was a collaborative effort with the National Park Service and was held as part of the Environmental Awareness Month celebration this April.

Nicole Schafer of Coastal Resources Management talks to students about marine debris and wildlife at the 2013 Environmental Expo, which took place on April 16 to 18 at the American Memorial Park.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Students learn about erosion using an interactive tool at one of the booths at the Environmental Expo on April 16 to 18 at the American Memorial Park grounds.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Jay Doronila of the Natural Resources Conservation Service Saipan Field Office talks to fourth grade students at Oleai Elementary School under the class of teacher Roselle Ichihara Carreon on the last day of the Environmental Expo held April 16 to 18 at the American Memorial Park grounds.
CLARISSA V. DAVID



Sirena Desebel, 11, checks the measurement of an actual fish at the Size Matters booth, one of the 30 presenters at this year's Environmental Expo at the American Memorial Park from April 16 to 18.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Avra Heller, Coral Reef Project coordinator at DEQ, said the expo was meant to educate students about the environment and the various ways of exploring it.

Heller, this year's overall chair for the Environmental Awareness Month Committee, emphasized that it is critical to give the students this kind of exposure to involve them and the entire community in the effort to conserve and protect the islands' natural resources.

Students share what they learn at the expo with their parents and friends, expanding the reach of the message to more members of the public, she said.

"These kids will grow up and continue to be on this island so we want to see them become stewards of the environment. They seem to get the idea of what they can do in their daily lives to protect the environment and engage them in one of our campaigns," Heller told *Saipan Tribune*.

Joelyn Kaainoa Mendiola, 12, said the expo is a fun way to learn, adding that she would tell her family and post on social media what she learned at the expo.

"I like fish so much, and I found out that you have to make sure that the fish has [to be] the right size before you take them out of the ocean," she said.

For Sirena Desebel, a fifth grader at Kagman Elementary School, her favorite booth was the one dedicated to coral reefs, which serves as a home for sea urchins, fish, and other aquatic wildlife.

"I learned that you're not allowed to take corals," she said.

Eleven-year-old Flanigen Santos said his attendance at the expo reinforced what he already knows, which is to keep the islands' beaches clean.

Santos said he and his family always hang out at the beach for barbecue parties and to frolic in the waters but they make sure that they take their trash home with them.

"If our trash goes into the water, it might choke our animals," he said. "We should also keep the beaches clean because tourists come here to explore our beaches."

Expo participants were accompanied by their teachers and guided by some 40 high school volunteers from the Marianas Baptist Academy, Mount Carmel School, and Kagman High School.

Other than one volunteer who fainted because of the heat and was immediately given medical attention and taken to the hospital, there were no other incidents at the event, said park ranger Rosreeann Leon Guerrero, who said that this year' expo was more coordinated, with more water stations to ensure that guests were hydrated.

Heller said more activities are scheduled within the week in observance of Environmental Awareness Month, including the Trash in Fashion Show on April 25 and the islandwide cleanup on April 26.

She noted, though, that environmental awareness should be promoted all year long. "It should be what we do all the time and it should be something that we all appreciate, especially on Saipan because it's such an incredible place to be," said Heller.

Today marks Earth Day in the CNMI, and Heller underlined the need to protect the environment.

"Be responsible for what you do with your trash and how you use your resources so we'll continue to have them for these kids," she added.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, **vs.** **VICENTE E. SANTOS and JOSEPHINE F. SANTOS,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 10-0294** **NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 13th day of June, 2011, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **29th day of April, 2013 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 011 G 443, containing an area of 780 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 09 dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4176, dated December 3, 1993.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer of his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the tile and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 8th day of March, 2013.

/s/Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) UNITS REGULAR PICK UP TRUCKS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-13

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of two (2) unit's regular pick-up trucks, standard transmission, and 4 cylinder engines with air conditioning. All other specifications are as per factory installation.

The proposal shall attach a factory warranty and must be able to provide 2 years maintenance and service agreement for the two (2) vehicles. Proposers shall guarantee delivery of these vehicles to CPA within 120 days from closing date of this proposal and at which time; CPA will make payment within 10 days thereafter.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of two (2) regular pick-up trucks. One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. Local Time, April 26, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of the CPA. The CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This Request for Proposal shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

04/9/13
DATE

Lino T. Aichi $ Margaret S. Rasa
P.O. Box 505605
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 483-8427

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For: **ALLEN AICHI** Minor Child, By: LINO T. AICHI & MARGARET S. RASA Petitioners	**FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0111** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 09, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2013.

Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB13-GOV-100

Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, is soliciting sealed bids for Security Services for the Water Task Force Drill Rig on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA. The Contractor is required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

The project Scope of Work and Proposal Forms will be available on or after **April 8, 2013** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 AM**, on **April 19, 2013**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:00 PM on **April 18, 2013**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-205. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "**IFB13-GOV-100**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 PM local time **May 8, 2013**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 PM local time **May 8, 2013**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 8, 2013**, and must be received by **May 17, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 PM local time, **May 20, 2013**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 PM local time on **May 8, 2013**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos
Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB13-GOV-083

Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, is soliciting sealed bids for the Puerto Rico One Million Gallon Reservoir Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior and the Economic Development Administration (EDA), US Department of Commerce. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA and EDA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Demolition Work: The Demolition Work of this Contract comprises of the demolition and disposal of existing one million gallon (MG) Puerto Rico welded steel tank to include but is not limited to its tank concrete foundations, yard piping, concrete vaults, and appurtenances. And the installation and construction of temporary bypass piping and its appurtenances.
- New Work: The New Work of this Contract comprises of the construction of a one MG nominal capacity welded steel Tank to include but is not limited to its concrete foundation, access manways, ladders and tank appurtenances, earthwork, site work to include asphalt paved access and perimeter drive and perimeter security chain link fence and access gates, piping, utility tie-in connections, protective interior and exterior tank coatings, flow meters, valves, concrete vaults, concrete headwalls, cathodic protection to include its design and installation, disinfection, testing, startup, and appurtenant work, as shown and specified, complete and operable, in accordance with the Contract Documents.

A non-refundable payment of $500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **April 15, 2013** at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 a.m.**, on **April 26, 2013**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on **April 25, 2013**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-301. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "**IFB13-GOV-083**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 15, 2013**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 15, 2013**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 15, 2013**, and must be received no later than **May 24, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, **May 28, 2013**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **May 15, 2013**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos
Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-017

Supply and Delivery of Materials and Tools for CUC Water Well Upgrade Project

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of materials and tools for CUC water well upgrade project in Obyan and Koblerville, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Supply and delivery of materials and tools for CUC water wells upgrade project, Obyan and Koblerville, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 23, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Form. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 8, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater, Chief Engineer via email john.riegel@cucgov.org and Robert Malate, Water/Wastewater, Engineer via email robert.malate@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-018

RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION STUDY

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for a Renewable Energy Integration Study for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The focus of this Renewable Energy Integration Study will be:

- To determine how much variable renewable energy (Solar PV and Wind) can CUC economically integrate into its grid?
- To investigate the operational impact - at penetration levels ranging from 10% to 50% - for Solar PV and Wind generation.

A Power System Analysis software with a Renewable Energy module will be purchased and installed on CUC computers for grid studies and operations. The contractor will recommend and install the software on computers provided by CUC. The contractor will model CUC's grid and carry out related Load-flow, Short Circuit, Stability (dynamic and transient), Transient and Protection analysis, as well as simulations.

The study should address these questions:

1. What is the impact of up to 50% variable renewable energy penetration and how can this be accommodated?
2. How much Solar PV or Wind generation can be connected on any of CUC's 13.8KV distribution feeders? Can geographic diversity or distributed generation will help mitigate variability?
3. How spinning reserve should be modified to account for the variability in Wind and Solar PV generation. What is the additional cost of spinning due to this variability?
4. What is the increased O&M cost of diesel generators due to increased ramping and cycling?
5. What are the Short Circuit levels and currents at interconnection points on the grid?
6. What are the supply quality problems; including voltage stability /collapse and frequency fluctuations?

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on April 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-018,Renewable Energy Integration Study",* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 20, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than May 10, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Bank executive wins Rotary's inaugural Pacific Hold'em

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Officers and members of the Rotary Club of Saipan stand behind the top three winners of the inaugural Pacific Hold'em Tournament held at the Royal Taga Hall of World Resort Saipan on Saturday night.

The president and chief executive officer of Bank of Saipan became the first champion of the inaugural Pacific Hold'em Tournament organized by the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Jon Bargfrede took home the champion bracelet and half of the combined first and second place earnings following a gentleman's agreement.

Bargfrede was one of two remaining players at the table shortly past midnight after an intense, 10-hour tournament held Saturday at the Royal Taga Hall of World Resort Saipan

Bargfrede propositioned the other player, Jeff Garcia, to wrap up the event that reached Round 24 by splitting the proceeds between them.

The prizes for first and second place winners are $4,200 and $3,000 respectively, and Bargfrede and Garcia will take home $3,600 each. Since the former had more chips, he got to take home the champion bracelet.

"I expected to be in the money. I was playing on being in the money," said Bargfrede in an interview right after the tournament.

The Dandan resident is no stranger to poker events, having won in previous tournaments, including one a few years ago at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino where he won second place, in Las Vegas, and also in the Philippines.

According to Bargfrede, a poker tournament player has to have not just money management skills but also luck, which he felt was on his side when he got to the venue.

"In any tournament, you have to have some luck. I don't care what any poker player tells you but you can't win a poker tournament without having some luck," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Bargfrede said that Bank of Saipan has been supportive of fundraising events of the Rotary Club of Saipan because of what it does to the community.

"Rotary does a tremendous job in everything they do. They do great things for this community and worldwide," he added.

Meanwhile, second-place finisher Garcia said this is the first time he won in a tournament, although he has been joining poker events on Tinian and regularly plays and wins the game with friends.

"I'm just happy that I won," said Garcia, a sales staff at Micronesian Brokers, Inc.

Bargfrede and Garcia will be presented their winnings tomorrow at the membership meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Besides the two, other winners and their prizes were third placer Rodney Camacho, $1,500; fourth placer Lino Tenorio, $1,200; fifth placer John Siren, $900; sixth placer Glen Calvo, $600; and seventh placer and Rotarian Alex Sablan, $600.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Event host Curtis Dancoe talks to the players during a break.

Rotary vice president and event co-organizer Laila Boyer said the event attracted 68 players from Saipan, Tinian, and Guam, including celebrity players like Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz, Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), Jack Manglona, Perry Inos, Jr., and Victor Torres.

While they only had one player who opted to re-buy, there were a lot of add-ons from the players, she said.

"It's a great turnout for our first tournament. There were a lot of things that we learned and will apply for a better tournament next time," she said.

Boyer revealed that they are planning to hold the next tournament in December and decide later on how often they will host the fundraising event.

For his part, Rotary president Pete Shilling said they received a lot of positive feedbacks from players who really enjoyed the tournament.

"Even the losers walked away with a smile. They said it's so much better than playing in a computer," he added.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

John Siren, holding his special prize, has his picture taken with his wife and Rotary president Pete Shilling.

The final three players analyze their next move during the game.

32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival

PHOTOS BY
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Delegates from Kiribati accept their plaque of appreciation from island officials led by Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos shakes hands with the Chuuk delegation representative.

A family representative of the late Connie Adams accepts the artist dedication plaque.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, along with Bridge Capital executives, inspects the submissions for 4th Annual CNMI Art Competition, which are on display at the festival grounds.

Chamorro Affairs president Joseph Artero-Cameron of Guam presents CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos with a wooden memorabilia from the southern island.

Family members of the late Francisco M. Dela Cruz perform following the dedication for the deceased artist.

Members of the Tinatak Dancers lead the moment of silence for one of their members who passed away on Friday, the night of their performance.

The female members of Guam's Irensian Taotao.

Artist Joe Kani and his wife.

Artist Catherine R. Perry displays her items for sale.

Docomo Pacific staff smile for the camera.

Artist Loling Cruz entertains a customer at her booth.

Life & Style

Fans in 'overdrive' for 'Hunger Games'

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Hunky love interest Liam Hemsworth is promising the highly-anticipated "Hunger Games" sequel will not disappoint fans.

It was a low-key pitch at the movie theater convention CinemaCon, where most stars boasted their films would be the biggest, loudest, splashiest blockbusters of the summer.

Then again, "Hunger Games: Catching Fire" is not a summer blockbuster. It doesn't come out until Nov. 22.

Yet the franchise based on Suzanne Collins' trilogy of young adult books has become such a phenomenon that Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. made it the star of a look-ahead presentation in Las Vegas on Thursday.

This led to the appearance a director and a few actors in not quite movie-promoting mode.

Director Francis Lawrence, who is new to the series, revealed that he was still "furiously" cutting the film.

Hemsworth, who plays Gale Hawthorne, the childhood friend of the series' heroine, kicked in a vote of confidence.

"I know that he's not going to disappoint anyone," he said.

In a blow to the super fans, or "tributes," who have been scrounging for news of the sequel for months, there was no sign of Jennifer Lawrence, who plays Katniss Everdeen, a teenager who survives a reality television-style battle to the death in an imagined future and becomes a symbol of resistance.

AP

This film publicity image released by Lionsgate shows Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss Everdeen, left, and Josh Hutcherson as Peeta Mellark in a scene from "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire."

The industry audience was treated to a trailer, which will soon appear in theaters, full of dystopian grays and blues, dirty children with hopeful, upturned faces, visions of a steely-eyed Katniss, and snippets of bureaucrats planning her death.

Fans have watched the teaser more than 20 million times on YouTube since it was posted on Sunday.

In the sequel, Katniss and fellow tribute Peeta Mellark embark on a victory tour of downtrodden districts as figureheads for the oppressive Capitol.

An impoverished tomboy in the first movie, Katniss now looks as made-up and richly outfitted as a doll. But she is not a willing puppet.

"Catching Fire" raises the stakes from the story of two teens fighting for their lives to the fate of an entire population.

In the trailer, we see Katniss' half-hearted smile turn into a scowl of resistance as frou-frou, ultra-tan advisers in the Capitol, inducing Philip Seymour Hoffman, fret about what should be done with her and other Hunger Games victors, finally deciding they must be "eliminated."

"I think we've actually been able to really ratchet up the emotion and the scope this time," Francis Lawrence said.

Elizabeth Banks, who plays a deliciously hateable tribute chaperone, recalled her superficial character Thursday with a perky, sharp edged, "heloooo!"

Fox TV renews 'Glee' for 2 more seasons

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Fox TV series "Glee" will keep on singing for another two years.

The network announced Friday that it has renewed the show about music-loving students through 2014-2015—its 6th season.

In a statement, Fox Entertainment Chairman Kevin Reilly said "Glee" continues to break new ground as a rare successful TV musical comedy. The show been a music hit as well, with more than 50 million downloads of "Glee" tracks and worldwide album sales of more than 13 million.

"Glee" has expanded from its original focus on the McKinley High School glee club to the college world of Rachel and Kurt, played by cast members Lea Michele and Chris Colfer.

Next Thursday's episode will feature Sarah Jessica Parker. Gwyneth Paltrow and Kate Hudson are among previous "Glee" A-list drop-ins.

Sarah Jessica Parker battles her twins for jewels

NEW YORK (AP)—Sarah Jessica Parker loves her jewelry—but so do a pair of 3-year-old thieves.

Parker's twin daughters Tabitha and Marion get to try on mom's baubles, and she said "they have walked away with many pieces."

"Nothing of enormous value and I've told them basically all of it's theirs with some set aside for my son," Parker said Thursday at Tiffany and Co.'s Blue Book Ball.

Parker joined actresses Jessica Biel, Kate Hudson, Gwyneth Paltrow and Michelle Williams for the celebration of Tiffany's Blue Book Collection, inspired by the New York Jazz Age in partnership with the film "The Great Gatsby," directed by Baz Luhrmann and starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan.

Hudson said she has a more whimsical approach to her jewelry box.

"I have a theory about jewelry. If you lose it, it's supposed to be gone. I don't shed a tear if I lose something," she said. But if not, she says, "I hold on tight to it."

But when it comes to jewels and baubles, does size matter?

"Oh, that's a good question. No, I think workmanship matters more than size," said Paltrow.

Actress Alice Eve disagrees: "Yes. Size always matters," she said with a laugh.

Parker had a more meaningful response, as her modest-sized wedding ring from husband Matthew Broderick is from Tiffany's.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

TV's 'Dexter' to end with upcoming 8th season

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The end is coming for Showtime's serial killer drama "Dexter." The cable channel said Thursday that the series' upcoming eighth season will be its last. "Dexter" stars Michael C. Hall as a Miami Police Department blood-spatter expert who's got his own list of murder victims. The drama debuted in 2006 and became Showtime's first hit series, with a steady performance in the ratings through its run. The final season begins June 30. It will feature English actress Charlotte Rampling as a neuropsychiatrist specializing in serial killers, and more of Dexter's criminal romantic interest, Hannah, played by Yvonne Strahovski.

Prince Harry says he'll beat US, others to S. Pole

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry said Friday he will take part in a race to the South Pole later this year, leading a team of wounded British military personnel against counterparts from Australia, Canada and the U.S. In a tongue-in-cheek challenge issued at a news conference, the 28-year-old royal warned his competitors that the Brits would have some tea "ready for you when you join us at the Pole." Harry and his fellow Walking With The Wounded teammates will participate in the 208-mile (335-kilometer) South Pole Allied Challenge in November and December of this year. That may be the height of the Antarctic summer, but conditions will still be bitterly cold. The four-week expedition will see racers drag sleds weighing more than 150 pounds (68 kilograms) and face extreme temperatures and savage winds.

NBC pulls drama episode after Boston violence

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC said Friday that it's pulling an episode of its serial killer drama "Hannibal" out of sensitivity to recent violence, including the Boston bombings. The episode that was to air next week features a character, played by guest star Molly Shannon, who brainwashes children to kill other children. "Hannibal" executive producer Bryan Fuller asked NBC to pull the episode, citing the Newtown, Connecticut, school shooting in December and this week's Boston Marathon attack, NBC spokesman Stuart Levine said. The episode, the fourth for the freshman series, will be replaced by another "Hannibal" hour. Viewers will not see a plot continuity issue, Levine said.

Daft Punk sets record on Spotify with 'Get Lucky'

NEW YORK (AP)—Daft Punk has set a record on Spotify. The music service says the French electronic duo's song "Get Lucky" had the biggest streaming day for a single track on Friday in the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Spotify wouldn't release the number of streams. Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' "Thrift Shop" previously held the record for most streams in a day in the U.S. British band Bastille had the title in the United Kingdom with the song "Pompeii." Daft Punk's "Get Lucky" features rapper-producer Pharrell. It's the first single from the group's fourth album, "Random Access Memories," due out May 21. It's their first studio album since 2005's "Human After All," though the band scored the "Tron: Legacy" soundtrack in 2010. They won a Grammy in 2009.

Mom wants ex to be a good sport and watch his son play

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My 14-year-old son, "Nils," recently joined a sport he really enjoys. His stepdad and I are at every practice, helping the coaches and coaching my son along.

Nils recently commented to me that he would like it if his father could come and see him practice. I took it upon myself, as I usually do, to call my ex, "John," and suggest he make an appearance because it would make our son happy.

My husband, who has been a wonderful stepdad to Nils for 13 years now, told me I should leave it alone. He said if John was a "real" father, he would just show up without being asked.

When things like this happen, should I leave it alone, or should I ask John to be involved more than he tries to be? I tell my ex about all of our son's activities and sometimes he just doesn't show.

TRYING TO BE A GOOD MOM

DEAR TRYING: Not knowing your former husband, I can't guess his reason for not coming to your son's practices, particularly if he said he was going to attend. John may be irresponsible, or he may have unforeseen scheduling conflicts. By telling him about your son's activities and letting him know his presence is wanted, you have done your job as a conscientious mother. At 14, Nils is old enough to also call his father and invite him. The rest is up to your ex.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: In reference to the letter from the man who was constantly setting off "gaydar" alarms in females (March 10), I would like to share my experience.

I dated and then married a man who incorrectly set off MY "gaydar." It had nothing to do with his mannerisms, his speech or appearance. It was his extreme personal insecurity regarding dating and making friends. In addition, "Mr. Not-Gay" could neither read nor write, which caused even more emotional insecurity.

After we had been married 10 years he became physically disabled and we had to move. No one in our new city took him for gay, even without me and without a wedding ring on him. He divorced me at 62 because the 30-something home-care aides looked better, but that's another story.

MARCIA IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR MARCIA: I hope you will write again and tell us the rest of the story, as I'm sure I'm not the only person who would be interested in reading it. I agree that individuals who are uncomfortable with themselves sometimes emit vibes that make others uncomfortable because I have experienced it. But this subject does highlight the absurdity of gay stereotypes. Because a man is slight, soft-spoken and a meticulous dresser does not mean he is gay, any more than it means a man who is fat, sloppy and loud is straight.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing "Duane" for two months. He's kind, good-looking, successful, smart and fun. He's also apparently quite proud of his astonishingly hairy chest because he always wears his shirts unbuttoned nearly to his navel. When we're in public, you can see people react. Sometimes they point and whisper.

I gently raised the issue, but he didn't seem to think it was a big deal. I like him, but I'm embarrassed sometimes. Any thoughts?

BLUSHING IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR BLUSHING: Yes. Your friend is suffering from overexposure. When strangers point and whisper, what they're saying is usually no compliment. Because Duane's decolletage embarrasses you, give him a choice: Button up or mow the "lawn."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

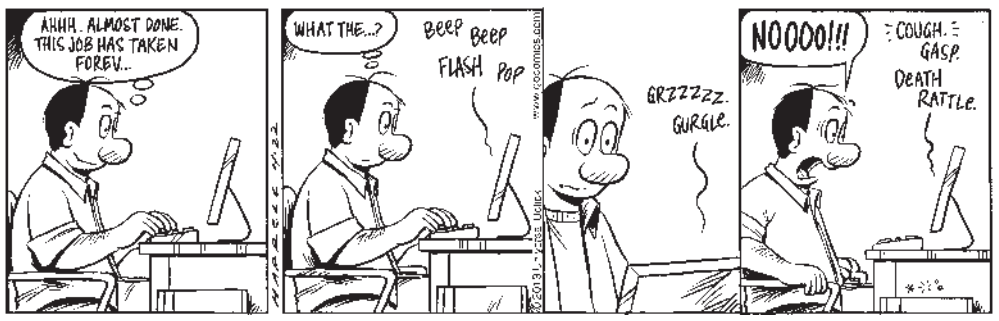
SUSIE, I THINK IT'S ONLY FAIR TO TELL YOU THAT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO WAY I WOULD EVEN CONSIDER ASKING YOU TO THE SENIOR PROM.
THAT'S ELEVEN YEARS FROM NOW!
I FIGURE THAT MIGHT GIVE YOU ENOUGH TIME TO FIND SOMEBODY WHO WILL.
IF I'D KNOWN HER LONGER, I COULD'VE GIVEN HER MORE NOTICE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Poehler's pal
4 Alias letters
7 Envelope part
11 Frosty
13 Wire measure
14 "The Amazing —"
15 Killer whale
16 Everything
17 Basin accessory
18 Intended
20 Burg
22 Sedona automaker
24 Electronic dance music
28 George who played 007 once
32 Sandbank
33 Lotion additive
34 Massachusetts cape
36 Knitting stitch
37 Pays attention
39 Balearic island
41 Went to a restaurant
43 Cow's comment
44 Responsibility
46 Formal decree
50 On the rocks
53 Jazz style
55 "Damn Yankees" vamp
56 Pickle herb
57 "See ya"
58 And others (Abbr.)
59 Benefit
60 Shrill bark
61 Wonder-ment

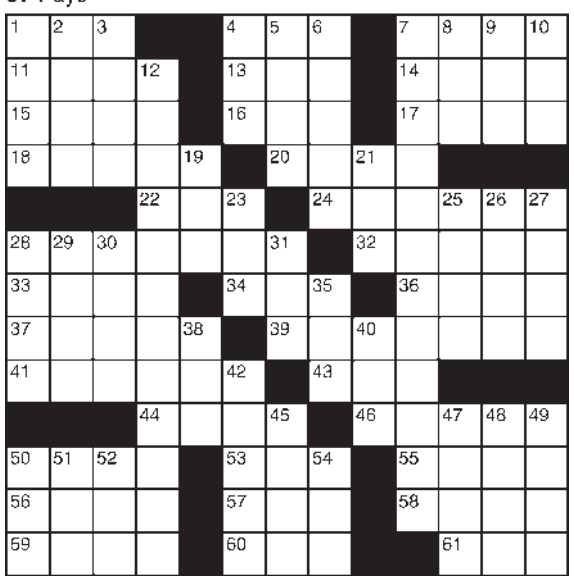
DOWN

1 Gift tag preposition
2 Ireland
3 Village People hit
4 "I — Camera"
5 Scottish garment
6 Apportion
7 Dowager's pet, maybe
8 Legislation
9 High card
10 Apiece
12 Pony rider of song
19 Can metal
21 Horror director Craven
23 Kimmel's network
25 60 minutes
26 Drug dealer's foe
27 Earthenware pot
28 Dalai —
29 Came down
30 Region
31 — Kippur
35 Water barrier
38 Helios' realm
40 Coffee, slangily
42 Pudgy
45 Nutritious bean
47 Greek vowel
48 Talon
49 Story
50 Egos' counterparts
51 Spy novel org.
52 Wapiti
54 Energy

Solution time: 27 mins.

N	A	T	A	L	■	O	R	B	■	F	A	B
A	R	I	S	E	■	B	E	E	■	I	D	O
G	E	N	I	E	■	J	I	N	G	L	E	S
■	■	G	A	R	D	E	N	■	R	E	P	S
P	A	L	■	S	E	C	■	B	A	T	T	Y
I	D	F	M	■	S	T	A	I	D	■	■	■
G	O	S	E	E	K	■	D	O	E	S	N	T
■	■	■	K	A	S	H	A	■	D	I	R	E
H	U	M	O	R	■	O	I	L	■	N	A	N
E	R	I	N	■	D	U	R	I	N	G	■	■
M	I	N	G	I	F	S	■	R	A	I	S	A
P	A	I	■	I	C	E	■	E	P	E	E	S
S	H	Y	■	D	O	S	■	L	A	S	T	S

Friday's answer 4-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Amber Heard, 27; Sherri Shepherd, 46; Jack Nicholson, 76; Glen Campbell, 77

Happy Birthday: Questions regarding your personal, educational or vocational direction will alter your life. Reassess your current position and adjust your time so that you can head down a path that is more suitable. Make a commitment and don't stop until you reach your goal. A partnership will need to be addressed and dealt with one way or another. Your numbers are 2, 9, 13, 27, 34, 40, 49.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Professional changes should be considered. You have to pursue your goals, not just dream about them. Put pressure on anyone able to help you get ahead. A partnership must not limit your chance to succeed. Test your skills and your talent. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Make personal adjustments to suit your lifestyle. Pursue knowledge and skills and boost your resume. Deal with government, financial or medical institutions with determination and preparation. Update your image and work to improve your relationships with peers and family members. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Share your ideas and make suggestions to those looking for answers or a way out of a difficult situation. Get your responsibilities out of the way before helping others. An emotional matter will leave you confused about a past relationship. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Approach people with something to offer. Ask for favors if it will help you make a move that will improve your life or living conditions. Love is on the rise and greater security will result if you nurture an important partnership. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Protect your reputation. Additional responsibilities will surface, allowing you to show your expertise and capabilities. Put pressure on the people you need something from in order to secure your position. Don't let a personal relationship interfere with your professional dreams. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Discuss your plans with people who have something to contribute. Business trips will pay off. Don't let a change of plans alter your course of action. Focus and determination will lead to victory. Hone your skills and put them to good use. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Expect the unusual. Pressure is likely to be put on you by a partner or someone you live with. Keep your assets and plans a secret. An unpredictable individual must not be allowed to stop you from reaching your goals. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You've got plenty to gain by lending a helping hand. A relationship will bring you closer to the personal goals you have set. Make plans to alter the way you are currently living. Good things will transpire if you negotiate. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Get the facts before making a promise. An opportunity will develop through a partnership. Make whatever changes you feel are required in order for you to get involved in a project. An unusual idea will put you in a good position. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): The more time spent taking care of domestic matters or personal investments, the better off you will be. A relationship that means a lot to you must be given top priority. Added responsibility can be expected, but will also come with benefits. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Problems with friends, relatives or people in your community can be expected. You must abide by the rules if you don't want to face limitations. An emotional situation must be dealt with privately. Listen, but keep your thoughts to yourself. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Money, legal and health matters should be taken seriously. You stand a chance to get ahead if you take responsibility and control of your life. Negotiations will turn in your favor and lead you in an auspicious direction. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a contributor, reliable and steadfast. You are quick to react.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2	1			5			
6		4	2	8				
9	3			4		7		
	4		8					1
	6	8		7		2	4	
7					6		9	
		3		6			5	8
				3	4	1		6
			5			9	3	

Difficulty Level ★ 4/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

5	1	6	4	9	2	8	7	3
8	4	7	1	6	3	5	9	2
2	9	3	8	7	5	6	4	1
3	6	4	5	2	8	9	1	7
1	8	9	6	3	7	4	2	5
7	5	2	9	1	4	3	8	6
9	2	1	3	4	6	7	5	8
6	7	5	2	8	9	1	3	4
4	3	8	7	5	1	2	6	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/19

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BOY NAMES **Solution: 5 letters**

M	J	E	M	W	Y	X	O	W	E	N	A	L	Y	D
A	O	T	D	A	E	K	B	A	I	L	E	Y	S	I
T	R	H	X	L	S	R	C	C	H	A	R	L	E	S
T	D	A	A	A	E	O	D	I	C	D	I	U	M	A
H	A	N	M	M	N	W	Ⓝ	N	R	R	C	A	A	A
E	N	U	A	N	M	Ⓞ	I	A	A	E	H	P	J	C
W	E	Y	O	T	Ⓐ	E	W	S	L	E	A	E	U	A
L	W	R	L	Ⓗ	H	D	D	L	A	C	R	T	S	M
O	A	N	I	O	E	A	I	F	A	E	D	E	T	E
G	N	E	V	M	U	O	N	A	R	A	E	R	I	R
A	A	H	E	A	T	I	O	L	O	A	K	D	N	O
N	E	P	R	S	L	T	S	F	N	Y	N	U	U	N
A	S	L	Y	E	R	O	C	I	L	L	U	K	E	J
I	V	A	O	B	O	B	A	E	J	O	S	E	P	H
K	Y	R	R	A	H	Y	R	O	B	E	R	T	I	D

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Aaron, Alex, Alfie, Andrew, Archie, Bailey, Bob, Cameron, Charles, Connor, Corey, Duke, Dylan, Edward, Elliot, Ethan, Ewan, Frank, Harry, Henry, Isaac, James, Jordan, Joseph, Jude, Justin, Kian, Kyle, Leo, Lewis, Logan, Louis, Luke, Mason, Matthew, Max, Mohammed, Nathan, Noah, Oliver, Oscar, Owen, Paul, Peter, Ralph, Reece, Richard, Ricky, Robert, Samuel, Sean, Thomas, Toby

Last Friday's Answer: Maintain

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Advice column

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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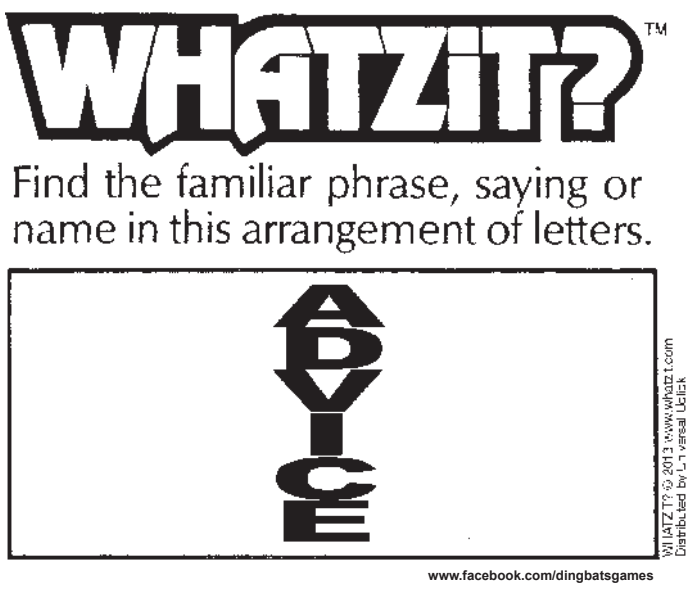
All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find today's solution in classified section

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P.O. BOX 500338 SAIPAN, MP 96950-0338 | TEL: (670) 234-6495 to 98 FAX: (670) 237-2529

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Date: April 18, 2013 **Close Date:** April 26, 2013

Position: **(1) Assistant Manager, Sales & Marketing**
Salary: $1,850.00 monthly
Job Qualification: College Graduate emphasis sales & Marketing Tourism. (3) years experience. Read Tourism Journal to plan tourism sales & marketing tragedy. Japanese/Chinese speaking. Write monthly report to Head Office in Japan.

Position: **(1) Accountant**
Salary: $6.00 per hour
Job Qualification: AA Degree / College Graduated / (2) Years Experience.

For more information you may contact Mr. Juan I. Tenorio, Manager for Human Resources Department at (670) 234-6495/8 ext. 5840/2. Employment application forms are available at Hafadai Beach Hotel, Human Resources Department.

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Home of 'V-KOOL'
is looking for the following positions

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- ✔ Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
- ✔ Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
- ✔ Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- ✔ Salary $5.55 per hour (CNMI minimum wage)

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S P O R T S

Diamond, Ortiz lift spirits after bombing, manhunt

Neil Diamond sings "'Sweet Caroline" during the eighth inning of a baseball game between the Boston Red Sox and the Kansas City Royals in Boston, Saturday, April 20, 2013. AP

BOSTON (AP)—A defiant David Ortiz stood on the Fenway Park infield and told the crowd to "stay strong," bringing a rousing cheer from Bostonians weary from a week of bombings, stay-at-home orders and a manhunt that locked down the city for a day.

Playing at home for the first time since two explosions at the Boston Marathon finish line killed three people and wounded more than 180 others, the Red Sox honored the victims and the survivors with a pregame ceremony and an emotional video of scenes from Monday's race.

"This past week, I don't think there's one human being who wasn't affected by what was going on down here," Ortiz said after the Red Sox beat the Kansas City Royals. "I was emotional, very angry about the whole situation. ... Everybody was hurting. I know it's going to take some time to heal up, but the one thing everybody's got to remember is that everybody supports each other."

Starting with a video, alternating between celebratory and somber and accompanied by Jeff Buckley's "Hallelujah," the tributes continued with a first-pitch ceremony that honored a first responder, a victim of the blast, and a marathon institution: Dick and Rick Hoyt, who have participated in the race for more than 20 years.

Then Ortiz took the microphone and, in what he later said was an unplanned outburst, let loose with an expletive that drew a huge cheer from the 35,152 who managed to make it through the beefed-up security and into their seats on time.

"This is our (expletive) city, and nobody is going to dictate our freedom," he said. "Stay strong."

Neil Diamond, who flew into town on his own and asked if he could sing, gave a live performance in the eighth inning of "Sweet Caroline," the Fenway staple that has been adopted by opposing ballclubs to show their support for the city.

As Diamond, a New York native who wore a Red Sox cap, left the field, fans chanted "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!" In the bottom half of the inning, Daniel Nava hit a three-run homer to give the Red Sox the lead, and they held on to win 4-3.

"You give people hope," Ortiz said. "We wanted to let them know we're here for them."

Across town, the Bruins also returned to the ice after postponing their game against the Pittsburgh Penguins on Friday night, when a manhunt for the bombing suspects led to a "shelter-in-place" order that locked down the city. One suspect died and the other was captured, hiding in a dry-docked boat in a Watertown backyard.

"At least we could all breathe a little easier and sleep a little easier," coach Claude Julien said after the Bruins lost 3-2. "And now it's, hopefully, time to work ourselves into trying to get things back to normal again. But it will always leave a scar somewhere."

Penguins coach Dan Bylsma met with reporters before the game wearing a black T-shirt with words "Boston Strong" over his shirt and tie.

"I feel like we're playing with the Bruins today, not against them," Bylsma said before the game. "I know I share their pride yesterday in their city and their people and certainly their law enforcement yesterday. I'm certainly not a Bostonian, but I certainly share in that pride and hope to today with them as well."

The Bruins took the ice for their pregame warmup wearing baseball caps for the Boston and state police, along with one for the police in Watertown featuring the Bruins' "Spoked B" logo and the word "Strong" on the back.

Security was tight at both games, as it was when the Bruins made their emotional return after the bombing on Thursday night.

A SWAT team member with a German shepherd stood guard at the doorway to the tunnel leading to Royals dugout about 2 1/2 hours before game time. A man in military fatigues checked all of the players' lockers and the many cracks in the ceiling tiles with a flashlight.

Outside, fans milled around, waiting for the gates to open. Several of them were wearing Boston Marathon jackets dating back as long as a decade. Long lines of fans waited to be scanned by metal-detecting wands; many were still waiting to get in when the Red Sox and Royals lined up along the base-lines for the pregame ceremony.

With Boston Athletic Association volunteers in their yellow and blue jackets lined up in front of the Green Monster and police and public officials encircling the mound, ballpark organist Josh Kantor played The Star-Spangled Banner, with the crowd singing along. A giant U.S. flag was draped over the 37-foot-high Green Monster left-field wall, temporarily covering the "B Strong" logo newly painted in left-center field.

Pictures of the victims, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer Sean Collier, were shown on the scoreboard, along with pictures from the marathon and the aftermath. Some of the biggest cheers were for the police who tracked down the suspects.

Gov. Deval Patrick and Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis, along with other law enforcement officials and rank-and-file, circled the mound for the ceremonial first pitches from firefighter Matt Patterson, who rushed to the site of the bombings; from Steven Byrne, who was injured in the explosions, and from Dick Hoyt, accompanied by his son Rick, who has cerebral palsy.

Ortiz, who had been on the disabled list all season, took the microphone and showed fans the specially designed uniforms saying "Boston" on the front instead of the "Red Sox" they have worn for decades. Both teams wore patches with the "B Strong" logo.

The Red Sox said their uniforms would be autographed and auctioned off to raise money for the One Fund Boston, the charity established to help the victims. The Boston Celtics, who opened their playoff series against the Knicks with a loss in New York on Saturday, said they would donate $100,000 to the charity, with another $100,000 to come from fundraisers.

The team said fans would be given the option to donate their refund from the canceled April 16 game against Indiana to One Fund Boston.

Warriors lose Lee, Game 1 against Nuggets, 97-95

DENVER (AP)—David Lee clutched at his right hip, hardly able to put any weight on his leg as he tried to scramble back down the court to play defense.

The painful grimace on his face told the story—this wasn't good.

Just when the Golden State Warriors got one big man back in Andrew Bogut, they lose their best post player. Lee went down with a strained right hip flexor early in the fourth quarter of Saturday's 97-95 loss to the Denver Nuggets in Game 1 of their playoff series. He will soon undergo an MRI to find out the severity.

Call it a big loss before a stinging defeat.

Andre Miller hit a driving layup with 1.2 seconds remaining as the Nuggets held on for their 24th straight win at the Pepsi Center.

Golden State did everything it intended, too. The Warriors kept up with the fast-paced Nuggets—even in the higher elevation—and silenced a capacity crowd that cheered the Nuggets to an NBA-best 38-3 home record in the regular season.

Until the end, that is, when Miller's shot sent the fans into euphoria. Game 2 is Tuesday night in Denver.

"Tough loss," Warriors coach Mark Jackson said. "But I thought we did some things very well.

"What I told my team is that I don't think anybody came in thinking sweep of the Denver Nuggets. It's not over. Take the blow, be ready to make the adjustments and respond."

Whether Lee will be in the lineup remains uncertain. He was trying to get around JaVale McGee for a layup when he was fouled and fell awkwardly to the floor.

Lee made one of two free throws but his leg buckled with each step he took to get back on defense. Finally, he had to be escorted to the bench and then headed into the locker room.

That look, the one etched on Lee's face, only heightened Stephen Curry's concern.

"You're always worried about your teammate," said Curry, who finished with 19 points. "For him not to be able to finish the game, you knew it was something."

Lee was having quite a game, too, scoring 10 points and grabbing 14 rebounds. His team was down six when he hobbled off the court, but that hardly deterred the Warriors.

Instead, Bogut stepped up, scoring six of his nine points in the fourth quarter to help the team hang around.

Curry, who missed his first nine shots of the game, finally found his touch at an ideal moment. He hit a 3-pointer in the corner—with Ty Lawson's hand in his face—to tie it at 95 with 14.5 seconds left.

After a timeout, the Nuggets drew up a play for Miller, one that would allow him to read and then react to Golden State's defense. He took a step to his right just to freeze Draymond Green and then drove to the hoop, laying the ball in between two defenders.

AP

Denver Nuggets guard Andre Miller, right, drives past Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green, left, for the game-winning basket in the second half of Game 1 in the first round of the NBA basketball playoffs on Saturday, April 20, 2013, in Denver.

Curry's last-second heave was well off the mark.

It was Miller's first game-winning shot of his career. He finished with 28 points.

"I thought I had him contained," Green said. "Maybe a half a centimeter over he can't get around me. He's a very crafty guy. Got to give him credit, but I've got to do whatever I could do to come up with the stop."

As for Lee, well, Jackson is hoping for some good news Sunday when an MRI is performed. An X-ray at the arena was negative.

"It's unfortunate," Jackson said. "He is certainly a highlighted guy for us, somebody we count on."

Lee was looking forward to the first playoff series of his career, chatting with Jackson just the other day about how he couldn't wait.

"Getting off the bus with (David) Lee and he said, `This is the longest bus ride I've had,'" Jackson recounted. "I said, `What do you mean?' He said, `It's been an eight-year bus trip to get to this place,' These guys have been playing a whole career waiting for this moment. They deserve it."

Bogut didn't play in any of the four games against the Nuggets this season because of his left ankle. He certainly had a presence in this contest, altering shots and grabbing 14 rebounds.

The Nuggets aren't exactly a favorable matchup for Bogut, who's usually more effective against centers such as Dwight Howard or Tim Duncan, not teams who fly up and down the court.

"I thought we had a very good performance of executing our game plan," Jackson said. "We made plays, we made shots, we defended.

"We put ourselves in a position to win the ball game but unfortunately, we fell short."

The Warriors arrived into town two days early, not so much to acclimate to the altitude as to escape the spotlight. Jackson doesn't want the moment to overwhelm his young squad.

Then again, he thinks they're playing with "house money" in this series anyway.

"We're going to roll this dice and have fun with it. Nobody expects us and that's OK," he said. "If I was picking, I'd pick them to win it. I'd pick them to win this series. I'd give them the edge at coaching, too."

Will the elevation or crowd be a factor?

"We've watched every bit of film and I haven't seen the altitude score and I haven't seen a fan score or rebound," Jackson said. "At the end of the day, credit goes to that coaching staff led by George Karl and that group of players. Win, lose or draw, it won't be because of the fans or the altitude."

Knicks 85, Celtics 87

In New York, Carmelo Anthony scored 36 points, and the New York Knicks beat the Boston Celtics in their playoff opener.

After knocking the Celtics from the top of the Atlantic Division, the Knicks took the first step to knocking them out of the playoffs by holding Boston to three baskets and eight points in the final period.

Anthony, the NBA's scoring leader, shot only 13 for 29 from the field but scored eight points in the fourth quarter, including consecutive baskets late in the period that finally gave the Knicks breathing room in a tight game.

Game 2 is Tuesday night before the Celtics host Game 3 on Friday in what will be their first home game since the Boston Marathon bombings.

Jeff Green scored 26 points and Paul Pierce added 21 for the Celtics, who badly missed injured point guard Rajon Rondo, committing 21 turnovers that led to 20 points. The Knicks got their hands on the ball at will in the fourth quarter, when Boston shot 3 of 11.

Kevin Garnett had eight points and nine rebounds but shot only 4 of 12 from the field. Jason Terry, another veteran on a young Celtics team, missed all five shots off the bench.

Nets 106, Bulls 89

In New York, Deron Williams, Brook Lopez and the Nets turned the Brooklyn blackout into a blowout.

Williams scored 22 points, Lopez had 21 and the Nets ripped apart the Bulls' vaunted defense with a spectacular second quarter, when they made 16 of 20 shots.

Joe Johnson finished with 16 for the Nets, who made their successful first season in Brooklyn even better with a victory in their first playoff appearance since 2007. They will host Game 2 on Monday night.

The Nets wore their road black uniforms and fans were encouraged to wear black as well to make it a "blackout" for the first major postseason game in Brooklyn since Oct. 10, 1956, when the Yankees beat the Dodgers in Game 7 of the World Series at Ebbets Field.

Carlos Boozer had 25 points and eight rebounds for the Bulls, who had Joakim Noah in the starting lineup despite foot pain. But he was clearly limited, and there was no reason to play him more than the 14 minutes he got with the game never in doubt after halftime.

Clippers 112, Grizzlies 91

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul led seven players in double figures with 23 points, Eric Bledsoe had 15 and the Clippers beat the Grizzlies while getting just one dunk in their playoff opener.

Chauncey Billups scored 14 points, and Caron Butler and Jamal Crawford had 13 apiece on a night when Blake Griffin was held to 10 points and five rebounds before fouling out with 3:32 left as Lob City was grounded.

Reserve Jerryd Bayless led the Grizzlies with 19 points, Marc Gasol had 16 and Zach Randolph had 13 points and four rebounds while playing with five fouls in the rematch of last year's first-round series, won by the Clippers in seven games. Bayless was one of four Grizzlies with four fouls.

Game 2 is Monday night at Staples Center.

Memphis closed within a point early in the fourth on a 3-pointer by former Clipper Keyon Dooling. Los Angeles answered with a 15-3 run to go up 92-79, equaling the 13-point lead it had in the first half. Eric Bledsoe, who had seven points, opened and closed the spurt with layups as the reserves played an important role in the key stretch.

Summerall remembered as 'voice of the NFL'

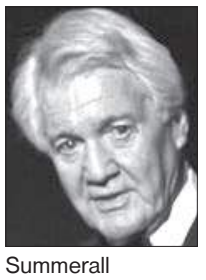
PLANO, Texas (AP)—Veteran sportscaster Pat Summerall was remembered Saturday during a memorial service as "the voice of the NFL" and a venerated figure who maintained a humble approach despite the praise his broadcast work received for decades.

Thousands gathered Saturday at a Baptist church just north of Dallas to pay tribute to a broadcaster who called some of the most memorable games in NFL history, and also was known for his coverage of Grand Slam tennis tournaments, the Masters golf tournament and other sporting events.

The former NFL kicker died Tuesday at age 82 of cardiac arrest at a Dallas hospital.

With his deep, resonant voice, Summerall called 16 Super Bowls and was the primary television play-by-play voice of the NFL.

Former NFL analyst John Madden said Saturday that his broadcast partner's steady presence made Summerall the voice of the league. Madden, once a fiery NFL coach, was seen by many as the storm alongside Summerall's calm. The two teamed for 22 years covering games for CBS and then more briefly for Fox.



Summerall

"I got up this morning and I thought, `Pat, I need you,'" Madden told the mourners. "I couldn't get the tie straightened, a button buttoned. It was the same old thing."

Madden described his first year with Summerall in the broadcast booth in 1981 as riddled with confusion as the former coach struggled with the craft and fumbled with headsets and other equipment. But Summerall "didn't look down on me," he said.

"He didn't tell you he'd pull you through, he just damn did it," Madden said.

After talking at length, a despondent Madden looked upward.

"I know Pat's up there saying, `brevity, brevity, brevity.' But just one more time I'm going to talk over you," Madden said, before reminding the audience of the deep faith Summerall developed in his later years.

One of Summerall's sons, Kyle, said his father had battled alcoholism for years but with the help of his faith had kicked it aside.

Summerall often shared his testimony with Christian groups and told his story when speaking before other organizations. In his 2006 book, "Summerall: On and Off The Air," he frankly discussed his personal struggles and professional successes.

Saturday's memorial service was powered by a group of church singers, a choir more than 300 strong, and NFL Hall of Fame players including former Cowboys quarterbacks Roger Staubach and Troy Aikman, ex-Dallas running back Emmitt Smith and former Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin. Fullback Daryl Johnston was among other past Dallas players who also attended, along with Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and head coach Jason Garrett.

Summerall, who spent his final years in the Dallas area, living in Southlake, was a member of the North Texas Super Bowl host committee for the game played there in February 2011 in the $1.1 billion Cowboys Stadium that opened in 2009.

Another of Summerall's sons, Jay, said his father made time for as many people as he could, no matter their lot in life. The elder Summerall often spent time answering fan mail, sending along autographed photos, and serving as an ambassador for the Betty Ford Center.

Summerall in 2004 received the liver of a 13-year-old junior high football player from Arkansas who died unexpectedly from an aneurysm, and Summerall had remained in touch the teenager's family.

"There was no big shot in him," Jay Summerall said.

Added Madden: "If there ever was a book about good guys, he'd be the star of that book."

Royals done in by bullpen in 4-3 loss to Red Sox

BOSTON (AP)—After honoring the victims and the survivors of the Boston Marathon bombings, the Red Sox kept on with their best start in 11 years by beating the Kansas City Royals 4-3 Saturday as David Ortiz played his first game since last summer and Daniel Nava hit a three-run homer off Kelvin Herrera (1-2) in the eighth inning.

The Red Sox wore white home jerseys with "Boston" on the front instead of the customary "Red Sox." The shirts will be auctioned off for a fund to support victims of the bombing.

Kansas City players and staff wore a "B Strong" patch on the front of their jerseys. Neil Diamond sang Red Sox favorite "Sweet Caroline" before the bottom of the eighth.

Following the emotional pregame ceremony, the Red Sox won their sixth straight games—four since Monday's bombings at the marathon finish line.

Clay Buchholz (4-0) allowed eight hits in eight innings.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Jonny Gomes flexes after hitting a double in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals in Boston, Saturday, April 20, 2013.

Yankee 5, Blue Jays 3, 11 innings

In Toronto, Blue Jays reliever Aaron Loup had a two-run throwing error in the 11th inning and the Yankees beat Toronto for their ninth win in 11 games.

Shawn Kelley (1-0) got two outs in the 10th for the win and Mariano Rivera finished for his fifth save.

Vernon Wells and Francisco Cervelli singled off Loup (1-1) to begin the 11th, and Ichiro Suzuki followed with a bunt to the third base side of the mound that Loup and third basemen Brett Lawrie both charged. Loup fielded it and wheeled to throw to third. But with Lawrie out of position as he retreated back to the bag, the ball sailed into foul territory and down the left field line, allowing both runners to score.

Angels 10, Tigers 0

In Anaheim, Calif., Mike Trout capped a nine-run first inning against Rick Porcello with his first career grand slam, Garrett Richards pitched two-hit ball over seven innings and the Angels routed the Tigers. Richards (1-0) struck out eight and walked none. Prince Fielder's leadoff single in the second and Miguel Cabrera's leadoff double in the seventh were the only hits off the right-hander.

Twins 2, White Sox 1, 10th inning

In Chicago, Ryan Doumit doubled and scored the go-ahead run in the 10th inning on Alexei Ramirez's throwing error, and Minnesota beat the White Sox.

Doumit led off with a double off Hector Santiago (0-1). After Aaron Hicks popped up a bunt attempt, Eduardo Escobar hit a slow grounder that shortstop Ramirez fielded cleanly but bounced his throw to first base. Escobar was safe on an infield hit and Doumit scored to help Minnesota snap a four-game skid against the White Sox.

Vance Worley pitched seven strong innings, giving up one run and five hits.

Rays 1, Athletics 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Jeremy Hellickson pitched seven impressive innings and Matt Joyce homered to help the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Oakland Athletics 1-0 on Saturday night.

Hellickson (1-1) allowed three hits, walked one and struck out six to win for the first time in four starts this season. Joyce homered off Jarrod Parker (0-3) leading off the second inning.

Joel Peralta pitched the eighth for Tampa Bay, which has won two straight over the AL West-leading A's after dropping seven of nine of a road trip that ended Thursday night.

Indians 19, Astros 6

In Houston, Jason Giambi, Mark Reynolds and Carlos Santana homered, and the Indians routed the Astros.

Giambi had five RBIs and Reynolds drove in four runs, but Scott Kazmir was unable to get the win in his first major league appearance since he recorded five outs in a start for the Los Angeles Angels at Kansas City on April 3, 2011. The left-hander allowed six runs and seven hits in 3 1-3 innings.

Cleveland roughed up Philip Humber (0-4) and finished with 22 hits while stopping a five-game slide.

Rangers 5, Mariners 0

In Arlington, Texas, Derek Lowe pitched four hitless innings in relief of injured starter Nick Tepesch, A.J. Pierzynski and David Murphy each hit solo homers and the Rangers beat the Mariners.

Lowe (1-0) came out of the bullpen in the second inning after Tepesch was hit just above the right wrist by a line drive, sustaining a bruise. The 39-year-old right-hander allowed only one Seattle batter to reach when he hit Kendrys Morales with a pitch leading off the third.

Tepesch left with two outs in the second inning when Jesus Montero's liner caromed off the right-hander's wrist and into shallow right field.

Orioles 7, Dodgers 5, first game
Orioles 6, Dodgers 1, second game

In Baltimore, Wei-Yin Chen pitched six innings of three-hit ball, Chris Davis and Manny Machado homered and the Orioles beat the Los Angeles Dodgers to complete a doubleheader sweep.

The Orioles won the opener 7-5, rallying from a four-run deficit behind Nolan Reimold, who homered and hit a tie-breaking two-run double in the eighth inning.

Los Angeles has lost six straight, its longest skid since a seven-game slide last June.

Chen (1-2) allowed one run, walked four and struck out two to end a six-game losing streak dating back to Aug. 19, 2012.

Tommy Hunter pitched the final three innings for his first career save.

Davis hit a solo homer in the second inning and the 20-year-old Machado made it 6-1 with a three-run drive off Josh Beckett (0-3) in the sixth.

In the opener—a makeup of Friday's rainout—Los Angeles took a 4-0 lead in the second inning. But South Korean left-hander Hyun-Jin Ryu couldn't hold the advantage.

With the score tied at 5 in the eighth, Davis hit a one-out double off Paco Rodriguez (0-1) and Ronald Belisario walked J.J. Hardy on four pitches. After a passed ball and an intentional walk loaded the bases, Reimold sliced an opposite-field liner down the right field line.

Darren O'Day (2-0) got two outs in the eighth and Jim Johnson worked a perfect ninth for his seventh save.

Nationals 7, Mets 6

In New York, Bryce Harper launched two long home runs, including a tiebreaking drive in the eighth inning, and also doubled to lead the Washington Nationals over the New York Mets.

Adam LaRoche and Ian Desmond homered for the Nationals on Bark in the Park day at Citi Field. Fans paid $35 for tickets in the second deck in right field, and brought their dogs for $10.

After the game, Nationals manager Davey Johnson said third baseman Ryan Zimmerman was being placed on the 15-day disabled list because of persistent tightness in his left hamstring.

Giants 2, Padres 0

In San Francisco, Pablo Sandoval hit a two-run homer and Tim Lincecum struck out a season-best eight batters.

Lincecum (2-0) pitched 6 2-3 scoreless innings, providing a steady presence on the mound after he had allowed four or more runs in a single inning in two of his previous three starts this year.

Sandoval's third home run of the season landed in the elevated right-field arcade for a 2-0 lead in the fourth that held up. The Giants are 8-1 this season when scoring first.

Rockies 4, Diamondbacks 3

In Denver, Jorge De La Rosa pitched six innings of two-hit ball, Michael Cuddyer homered and the Colorado Rockies won their season-high eighth in a row.

De La Rosa (2-1) won for the first time at Coors Field since returning late last year from reconstructive surgery on his pitching (left) elbow. And he resumed his mastery at home of the Diamondbacks, improving to 7-0 with a 1.38 ERA in eight career starts against Arizona at Coors Field.

He struck out four and walked two and didn't allow a run in a second consecutive six-inning outing as the Rockies ran their home record to 8-0. Colorado is the only team in the majors without a loss at home.

Reds 3, Marlins 2, 13 innings

In Cincinnati, Brandon Phillips had a game-ending sacrifice fly in the 13th inning, giving the Reds a victory over the Marlins.

Facing Steve Cishek (1-2), Miami's seventh pitcher of the game, Shin-Soo Choo led off the 13th with an opposite-field double down the left field line, his sixth time on base in seven plate appearances—he walked three times. Zack Cozart sustained an apparent right-hand injury while trying to bunt, and pinch-hitter Cesar Izturis moved Choo to third with a fly ball to center field. Joey Votto was intentionally walked, and Phillips—on his bobblehead day—lofted the fly to center field.

Alfredo Simon (1-1) retired the Marlins in order to get the win.

Cardinals 5, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Lance Lynn threw one-hit ball for seven innings and Carlos Beltran homered for the third straight game to lead the Cardinals over the Phillies.

Lynn (3-0) did not allow a hit until John Mayberry Jr., led off the fifth with a double. Lynn struck out eight and walked three in his longest outing of the season.

Trevor Rosenthal and Mitchell Boggs each tossed a scoreless inning to combine for St. Louis' fourth shutout of the season.

Beltran's solo shot off Cliff Lee (2-1) in the fifth inning gave him homers in the first three games of the four-game series. Allen Craig had a two-run single in a four-run third for the Cards.

Lee easily had his worst start of the year. After walking one batter in 23 2-3 innings this year, he walked the bases loaded in the third that led to St. Louis' big inning.

Pirates 3, Braves 1

In Pittsburgh, James McDonald pitched six dominant inning and Gaby Sanchez hit a tiebreaking two-run homer to lead the Pirates to a victory over Atlanta.

In quite a contrast to his previous start, McDonald (2-2) struck out nine while allowing only one run on two hits. McDonald was tagged for eight runs in 1 2-3 innings on Monday in a loss to St. Louis.

Sanchez's first home run of the season broke a 1-all tie and capped a three-run sixth. Paul Maholm (3-1) carried a two-hit shutout into the inning and had not allowed a run in 25 1-3 innings this season.

Atlanta (13-4), which has the best record in the major leagues, lost consecutive games for the first this season.

Brewers 5, Cubs 1

In Milwaukee, Jonathan Lucroy homered, Hiram Burgos pitched five innings in his major league debut and the Milwaukee Brewers took advantage of shoddy fielding by the Chicago Cubs in a 5-1 win Saturday night.

Burgos (1-0) held the Cubs to one run and five hits with a strikeout and no walks to help the Brewers win their sixth straight game.

The Brewers scored first when Lucroy hit his third home run of the season, a solo shot to left center field in the second inning off Cubs starter Edwin Jackson (0-3). Jackson lost to the Brewers for the second time this season.

Donaire 'fitter as featherweight'

By MARC ANTHONY REYES
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BOXING

NEW YORK— Without missing a beat, Top Rank big boss Bob Arum said Nonito Donaire Jr. should move up to a heavier division to avoid the trouble of making weight each time he fights.

The most successful boxing promoter of his generation noted that "trouble in making the weight" led to Donaire's loss to Cuban Guillermo Rigondeaux in their world super bantamweight title unification bout Saturday here.

AP

Guillermo Rigondeaux, left, lands a punch on Nonito Donaire during a junior featherweight title boxing match at Radio City Music Hall in New York Sunday, April 14, 2013. Rigondeaux won on a unanimous twelve round decision.

Hardly affected by a 10th-round knockdown, Rigondeaux easily added Donaire's WBO title to his WBA crown by unanimous decision.

Arum, speaking at ringside at the posh Radio City Music Hall, said Donaire was in sweat shirt still trying to shed pounds hours before the official weigh-in and during the fighters' meeting Friday.

"He's got to move up in weight," Arum told reporters at press box after the fight. "I mean, he apparently blew off the fighters' meeting with his sweat shirt on and he had to get out and make the weight."

Donaire, fighting in his fourth weight class, tipped the scales at 121.6 pounds Friday and entered the ring Saturday at 129, his heaviest ever.

In separate interviews, Donaire trainer Robert Garcia and manager Cameron Dunkin said they are inclined to move to 126 for the next fight, probably in early October. The team wants Donaire to have a third fight by December.

"We don't have any decision yet but it's something we are looking at," said Garcia of Donaire's possible move as a full-pledged featherweight.

Yamagishi captures Amigos March Ace

Amigos Golf Club held the March Ace of the Month on April 7 at the Kingfisher Golf Links with 14 players braving the heat and chasing eventual winner Doll Yamagishi.

The 23-handicapper Yamagishi fired a gross 88 and led the qualifier with her net 65, beating Lorraine Babauta's 66 and John Matsumoto's 67. Babauta carded an 82 and with her 16 handicap, she ended up one stroke behind Yamagishi. Matsumoto had a gross 86 and deducting his 19 handicap, he tallied a net 67.

Despite the slim lead, Yamagishi showed the rest of the group in the April 7 tournament how to sustain it, improving her score by three strokes after shooting a gross 85 and net 62. Her two-round total of net 127 was three strokes better that runner-up Felix Sasamoto, who had a 130, built from a net 61 in the April 7 event and 69 in the qualifier. Rounding out the Top 3 was Lorraine Babauta, who shot a gross 84 and net 68 for a two-round total of 134.

Other Amigos members who joined the March events were Joe Tudela (138), Larry Hocog (142), Dan Quitugua (142), Matsumoto (142), Joe Sablan Sr. (144), Joe Sablan Jr. (145), Ben Jones Sr. (145), John Guerrero (147), Frank Guerrero (147), Frank Sablan (147), and Shirlyn Jones (147), and Syl Ada (148). ***(PR)***

International fishing derby sets sail July 13-14

The 29th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament will get underway on July 13 and 14 with participating boats launching from the designated launching points of Smiling Cove Marina and Garapan Fishing Base.

The organizing Saipan Fishermen's Association said entrance fee is $150 per boat for a captain and two crewmembers. Additional crewmen will be charged $25 each.

As always, the type of fishing is trolling and participants must have their boats inspected by the Division Boating Safety first before being allowed to join the derby. For appointment, call Boating Safety at 664-9180/1/2.

Launching times are 6am and 8am at Smiling Cove Marina and Garapan Fishing Base. After 8am, participating boats can only launch from the Smiling Cove Marina.

Last year, the crew of the *Emmanuel* made headlines by reeling in a 942-lb blue marlin. By doing so, the anglers from Guam broke the 25-year record of the heaviest marlin caught in the tournament.

The crew of the *Emmanuel*, made up of captain Mike James and anglers Frank James, John Hattig, and George Arriola, took home $10,000 cash for the record-breaking monster marlin. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Emmanuel crewmembers and supporters pose with their giant 942-lb marlin caught last year during the Saipan Fishermen Association's 17th Annual International Fishing Derby.

THE CLINCH

From Page 28

top position and land heavy punches on Alvarez, who tried to survive the round by getting out of Masga's tight grip.

The erstwhile champion from Guam did stay in the bout in the opening round, but not without sustaining a cut on the lower right eye.

With Alvarez getting a lot of punishment from Masga's ground-and-pound tactic, the Countershot Guam fighter decided to get some distance from the Trench Tech bet in the opening seconds of the second round. Alvarez again traded punches with Masga, however, the latter managed to catch the former anew and held him on the ground. Once both fighters were down on the canvas, Masga unleashed more strong punches on Alvarez's face and body. Then just when spectators were expecting Masga to finish off Alvarez with his barrage of strikes, "The Clinch" locked down his foe, who this time could not get out of trouble and called it a night.

Meanwhile, one more title fight took place last Friday with Mikey "The Flash" Taitano of Spike 22, Ground-Fu/OGLC knocking out Trench Tech's Martin "Ningbo Slice" Cepeda in their welterweight championship encounter.

Taitano scored the KO win at the 2:02 mark of the second round, as he let go off strong punches while Cepeda was at the corner, with his hands down and leaving his face open for the target. The hapless Cepeda dropped on the floor and was unconscious for several minutes, forcing the medical team and fight organizer to enter the octagon and check him. The Trench Tech fighter managed to stand up just after ring announced L.J. Castro was done interviewing Taitano, who capped his impressive win with a marriage proposal to his girlfriend right at the octagon cage.

The Taitano-Cepeda welterweight title bout began with both fighters unleashing unruly punches. An exhausted Cepeda then tried using a different tactic, holding on to Taitano at the corner and trying to break the former's right arm. However, Cepeda got out of Taitano's hold and for awhile, the fighters fought on the ground and exchanged positions and blows.

Taitano and Cepeda then stood up and the bout turned into a punching fight with the Guam fighter landing solid shots on Cepeda's face and the latter throwing a couple, too. Despite absorbing most of the strikes in the exchange, Cepeda showed Taitano he can handle them, leaving his face open and taunting the latter to come closer and hit him some more. The round ended with Cepeda still in the fight, but his left eye started to swell and blood began dripping from the cut he sustained on the lower right eye.

Cepeda, on the other hand, was without damage, although he was breathing heavily after the eventful first round. The visiting fighter picked up where he left off, landing some knee strikes in the opening seconds of the second round. He then cornered Cepeda, who again was defenseless with his hands down and this time he could not take the punches, as Taitano threw a couple of combinations to pull the plug on his opponent.

Meanwhile, nine other MMA fights, and four kickboxing matches were held last Friday and results will be reported later this week.

ADOBO

From Page 28

only one field goal, but made his presence felt in the second canto, dropping 10 points, as the defending champion broke the game wide open with a 30-point halftime advantage, 59-29.

Adobo almost doubled-up Chinatown in the first 20 minutes of play, as the latter's returning players were still trying to settle down with their new recruits. Brian Ajoste and Bryan Chan are suiting up for Chinatown, which advanced to the semis last season, and finished with 14 and 5 markers, respectively. However, their output were no match against the Adobo's trio, as Faisao, Vertudez, and Deleon Guerrero continued to pile up points in the third period before slowing down in the fourth when the win was already in the bag.

Adobo also got double figures from another new recruit, Adrian Palacios, who added 11 points. Returnee Mike Saturno logged 8, while Erick Dela Rosa debuted for Chinatown and nailed 12 points.

In the second game, Mawati edged Yuchiro Printing, 75-71.

Mawati canned four pressure-packed free throws to thwart Yuichiro.

It was a come-from-behind victory for Mawati, which fell behind by as much as 12 points in the first quarter, 24-12, before working its way back in the game in the fourth canto behind Ian Larot, Francis Serrano, and Ramsa Tenepere.

Adobo 111 – Faisao 24, Vertudez 23, Deleon Guerrero 22, Palacios 11, Saturno 8, Yap 4, Apelo 4, Tadifa 2.

Chinatown 76 – Ajoste 14, Dela Rosa 12, Zapanta 9, Quizon 8, Chan 5, Brel 4, Norita 4, Lapuz 4.

Scoring by quarters: 28-14, 59-29, 92-59, 111-76.

NO-HITTER

From Page 28

and a double in the second, as the Enforcers took a commanding 8-0 advantage after the first two innings.

Martin Omelau and batting leader Shakobe Rangamar were also perfect at bat, going 2-for-2. Rangamar added three runs, while Omelau chipped in one run and both recorded a double.

With Kaipat steady on the mound and the rest of the JPO defense active, the best that IT&E could get was reach second base with Darian Masayos advancing at the bottom of the third after a Steven Goodwin walk.

Red Sox 12, Comets I 3

The second game last Saturday had the Red Sox downing the Comets I.

Luis Blas led the Red Sox (5-5) upset of the Comets I (9-3), as he was flawless at the plate, hitting 4-for-4. He had five RBIs, made two runs, including a three-run homer at the top of the first inning, and recorded one double and one triple. Blas also pitched 2.2 innings, replacing Tindin Indalecio, and gave up only one hit and no runs while striking out six for the Red Sox's big win.

Indalecio pitched 3.1 innings for the Red Sox and though he gave up two earned runs in the fourth inning, he shut out the Comets I in the first three for his team's 5-0 lead.

Twins 16, Jets 15

In the third game, the As Matuis Twins (3-8) slipped past the Juan Santiago Tenorio Jets (1-9).

The Twins withstood the Jets' bottom of the seventh rally with Austin Guerrero catching Andrew Camacho stealing third base for the third out. The Jets fell behind, 16-8, going into the last innings, when they fought back at the bottom, but fell short.

Bradley Pangelinan went 4-for-4 for the Twins, logged six RBIs, three doubles, one triple, and one homer.

Austin Leon Guerrero pitch 3.4 innings and gave up only three runs (one in each inning, as the Twins raced to a 7-3 lead and hung in there. Leon Guerrero then went 3-for-5 at bat and recorded two runs, one double, and two RBIs.

Ol'Aces 9, Rockies 9 (rescheduled)

In the last game, the Go See Mark Ol'Aces and Rockies were in a standoff after six complete innings.

The two teams were not allowed to play in extra innings, as Little League rules bar players in the Major division to be at the pitch after 6pm. The match will be rescheduled.

The Rockies were behind, 6-8, at the top of the fifth inning, but stole the lead at the bottom after getting two runs off the Ol'Aces errors and Donavi Ada making a single and driving home Dai Podziewski, 9-8.

The Ol'Aces then forced the last deadlock, 9-9, after T. Camacho, who stole third, ran to home plate off a wild throw from Podziewski. The Ol'Aces went on to save the game when shorts top Mathan Higgins, who committed the errors that allowed the Rockies to score in the fifth inning, picked up a grounder and complete a double play, and Keoni Kaipat struck out Austin Ada.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	12	4	.750	–
New York	10	6	.625	2
Baltimore	10	7	.588	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	7	10	.412	5 1/2
Toronto	7	11	.389	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	8	7	.533	–
Detroit	9	8	.529	–
Minnesota	7	7	.500	1/2
Chicago	7	10	.412	2
Cleveland	6	10	.375	2 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	12	6	.667	–
Texas	11	6	.647	1/2
Los Angeles	6	10	.375	5
Seattle	7	12	.368	5 1/2
Houston	5	12	.294	6 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	13	4	.765	–
Washington	10	7	.588	3
New York	8	8	.500	4 1/2
Philadelphia	7	11	.389	6 1/2
Miami	4	14	.222	9 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	10	7	.588	–
Cincinnati	10	8	.556	1/2
Pittsburgh	9	8	.529	1
Milwaukee	8	8	.500	1 1/2
Chicago	5	11	.313	4 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	13	4	.765	–
San Francisco	11	7	.611	2 1/2
Arizona	9	8	.529	4
Los Angeles	7	10	.412	6
San Diego	5	12	.294	8

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

Tennis players, MP United crowned champions

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tennis players and MP United clinched championships last week.

In the 13th Annual PIC Tennis Championships held at the Pacific Islands Club hard court, organizers awarded trophies to top finishers in the juniors singles and doubles and adults singles.

Thea Minor and Rafael Jones won the U18 singles titles, Moris Villanueva and Negahr Rastguiy topped the U15 division, and Robbie Schorr and Julia Ishikawa reigned supreme in the U12 age group. In the U12 doubles, Schorr and Tony Kim and Carol Lee and Tania prevailed in the boys and girls U12 division.

In the adults singles, Jones also won in the men's open, while Thea Minor ruled the women's open. Luther Lizama took the men's 4,0 crown, while Marivic Rosario and Osaka Keller dominated the 3.0 division. In the mixed open doubles, Jeff Race and Thea Minor dethroned Bobby Cruz and Minor.

Also getting a championship win last week was MP United, which ruled the U18 division of the 2013 NMIFA Spring Youth League.

MP United defeated rival Paire FC in the last game of the season, 3-0, to finish the three-round robin tournament with a league-best 5-0-1 win-draw-loss record.

Still in football, the visiting Long De Football Club of Nanjing, China defeated Tan Holding FC in a friendly game at the Oleai Sports Complex Field, 3-0.

Meanwhile, other ongoing leagues/tournaments on Saipan continued with the Major division of the Saipan Little League Baseball holding its regular season games at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield. The Junior, Big, and Senior matches also took place at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Still in baseball, the IP&E Fielders notched back-to-back wins last week to stay in the hunt for the Top 2 spots in the SML. The Fielders won over the D-9ers and the St. Michael Angels to keep up with the Northern Yankees and the Tan Holdings Brewers.

Over at the Garapan Basketball Court, the Masters Basketball League held games in the 30A, 40A, and 50A age groups, while in San Jose, Robert Talavera earned his sixth perfect game after rolling another 300 during the PBA Saturday Night League at the Saipan Bowling Center.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

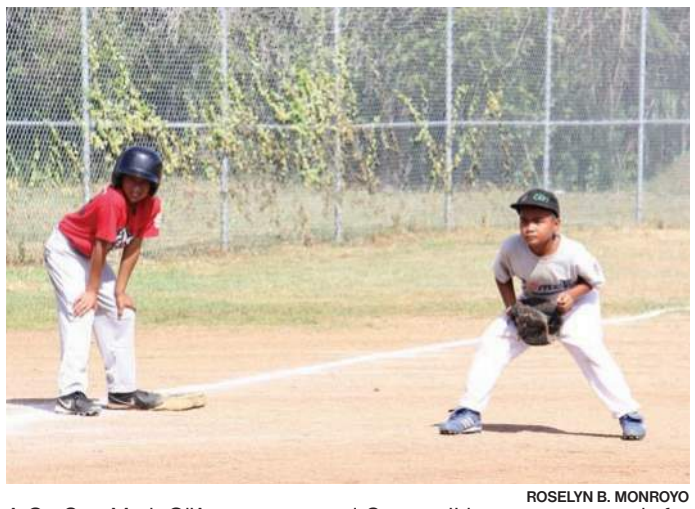
Marianas Water's Joel Saplan, right, is guarded at the baseline by Wawawindz's Melvin Capalad during the fourth quarter of their 30A game in the Masters caging last Wedneday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United players gather at the pitch before their game against Paire in the U18 division of the NMIFA youth league last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Robbie Schorr goes for a backhand return during his boys U12 title game against Tony Kim in the PIC tournament early this month at the Pacific Islands Club hard court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Go See Mark Ol'Aces runner and Comets II baseman get ready for the next play during their game in the Major division of the SLLB last week at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Fielders huddle at the mound during their game against the St. Michael Angels in the SML last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

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Sports

'The Clinch' steals title from 'Hedgedog'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vince "The Clinch" Masga dethroned Josh "The Hedgedog" Alvarez in the bantamweight title match in Trench Tech's Rites of Passage 14: Mayhem last Friday night the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Masga grabbed the championship belt after winning via submission on a rear-naked choke at the 2:37 mark of the second round.

The title bout was scheduled for five rounds and it started with a standup up fight with Masga and Alvarez exchanging punches. However, seeing that he had to be more aggressive to have a chance for the belt, the Saipan bet turned to his ground-and pound-game in the final two minutes. The challenger managed to gain the

See THE CLINCH on Page 26

Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga holds down Countershot Guam's Josh "The Hedgedog" Alvarez during the first round of their bantamweight title match in Trench Tech's Rites of Passage 14: Mayhem last Friday night the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

No-hitter lifts Enforcers past IT&E

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kenneth Kaipat had a no-hitter to power the JPO Enforcers to a 10-0 rout of IT&E during one of the four Major division games played in the 2013 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

Kaipat pitched four innings, stuck out four batters, and walked two to help the JPO Enforcers improve to a 7-4 record. IT&E fell to a 1-10 slate.

Dennis Cabrera went 3-for-3 for the Enforcers and scored one RBI and three runs, including a homer in the third inning. He had a single in the first

See NO-HITTER on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Go See Mark Ol'Aces shortstop Mathan Higgins picks up a grounder for a double play during the bottom of the sixth inning of their game against the Pinnacle Rockies in the Major division of the SLLB last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

Adobo routs Chinatown in DLX opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Adobo started its title defense in Division B of the 2013 DLX Invitational with a bang after whipping Chinatown, 111-76, in the opening game last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Adobo, which won the division championship against Gualo Rai last month, 66-62, drew 20-plus points from mainstay Lester Vertudez and Shane Deleon Guerrero and got a big debut from new recruit Ichitaro Faisao for the lopsided win. Faisao scored 24 points, while Vertudez and Deleon Guerrero contributed 23 and 22 markers, respectively.

Faisao and Vertudez was right on the money in the opening period, firing 9 points apiece to lift Adobo to a promising 28-14 lead.

Deleon Guerrero was missing in Adobo's first quarter attack, making

See ADOBO on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Shane Deleon Guerrero, seen here pulling up for a short jumper during their title game against Gualo Rai last month, scored 22 points in Adobo's 111-75 rout of Chinatown during the opening of another season of the DLX caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.